

prisoners is said to be a man of considerable property.

**LONDON, Dec. 2.  
DESCENT ON ENGLAND.**

The means of obtaining ten millions of livres, for the construction of a thousand or more than a thousand gun-boats.  
Pitt proposes to raise the sum of seven millions sterling (168 millions Tournois) for the year 1798, by tripling the affected taxes. According to his calculation, there are in England 1,400,000 houses. The number of persons upon whom taxes fall, including men, women, and children, he estimates at about seven millions and a half. He says, that, of 1,400,000 houses, about seven or eight hundred thousand pay affected taxes; the others being miserable cottages, pay nothing at all: the seven millions, therefore, he proposes to raise by tripling the affected taxes, will fall at the rate of ten pounds sterling (240 livres Tournois) upon each house:—He foolishly believes that this resource is sufficient to prevent France from making a descent.

Having thus stated the question on one side, it remains to treat it in the other point of view, in which it ought to be considered by this country.

Our object at present is a descent: there is no other mode by which to subdue the English government, and to put an end to its tyranny. We are in possession of all the requisite means, except that of passing the little arm of the sea that separates France from England. But, as our object is not to combat the English fleet, but to *escape* it, our mode of navigating ought to be such as that the English fleet cannot obstruct our voyage.

Every one knows that there are two modes of navigation—sailing and rowing. We also know that vessels with sails must regulate their course by the wind; but, that boats with oars may be moved in every direction, and with the greatest facility, when there is no wind at all.

Thus the most certain, and the least expensive means of passing into England, in spite of the English fleet, are to employ row-boats, having a small sail, like the Dutch fishing-boats, to serve upon occasion.

If the French coasts were five or six hundred leagues distant from those of England, it would be very ridiculous to talk of row-boats; but in many places, there are no more than eight, ten or twelve leagues between them; and to the most distant parts where we could think of making a descent, there are no more than forty or fifty leagues, which may be passed in forty-eight hours, even without the aid of sails, on the supposition that the boats can row at the rate of a league an hour.

The Russians transport their troops in row-boats across the Black Sea. The Swedes transport theirs, in the same manner, to the most distant parts of the Swedish empire. The Russian boats can transport two or three hundred soldiers each, and six men are put upon one oar. But for making a descent upon England, boats of a smaller size ought to be preferred.—The sea on many parts of the English coast does not often run very high, and the tides, therefore, go close in shore, and the troops land as easily as persons step out of a wherry.

The expense of the English navy for the year 1798, according to Pitt's budget, is 12,500,000 sterling, or 300,000,000 of livres Tournois. To cover this enormous expense, he proposes to triple the affected taxes, which will take, at an average, 240 livres from each family. France wants only 1000 gun-boats, which will cost no more than ten millions Tournois. To raise this sum, no new impost is necessary: it will be better to obtain it by patriotic gifts.

Citizen Villera has already stated, in the Council of Five Hundred, that many persons had expressed their desire of contributing voluntarily to the expense of a descent upon England. I love the patriotic spirit of these worthy citizens; and as I desire to contribute my mite towards this important measure, I have contrived a plan which will enable every citizen to participate in the honor of destroying a government, which, for more than a century, has been the scourge of the human race.

The sum I would propose to raise by patriotic gifts is, ten millions of livres, to be employed, under the direction of the government, in building a thousand, or more, gun-boats.

As it is better rather to under-rate than to exaggerate our means in a calculation of this kind, I shall estimate the population of France at only 25,000,000 though her increase of territory must make the number considerably greater. I believe it will be found, that the men of twenty and upwards form about one fifth of this population;—that is to say, 5,000,000. One half of these five millions, 2,500,000, I shall suppose, are the industrious poor, from whom the will must be taken for the deed: I divide, then, the remaining two millions and a half into two classes of 250,000 each, and four classes of 500,000 each. The greatest patriotic gift, according to my calculation, should be 12 livres, and the smallest 20 sols. Each person should have the liberty of causing his name to be inscribed in any class he may think proper. If a citizen of small fortune wishes to inscribe his name in the first class, and a rich man in that of 20 sols, they ought both to be permitted to do so: it is equality of rights, not of fortunes, which is the real principle of equality.

**TABLE OF THE CLASSES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE PRODUCTS**

Class	Number of Persons	Individual Gift	Total Product
1	250,000	12	3,000,000
2	250,000	6	1,500,000
3	500,000	5	2,500,000
4	500,000	3	1,500,000
5	500,000	2	1,000,000
6	500,000	1	500,000
Total			10,000,000 Livres

The average rate of these patriotic gifts is, 4 livres a head. That of Mr. Pitt's triple taxes is, 240 livres.

The weakest part of the English dominions is England itself. It is far less difficult to land 100,000 men in England, than to send 10,000 to the East-Indies.

Troops sent to India must be embarked on board transports of two or three hundred tons burthen each, and ships of the line must be employed for their conveyance. An English Squadron may block up the ports in which such an expedition is preparing; and if, by any change of wind, the transports should be enabled to sail, the English Squadron could also avail itself of the advantage of this wind and follow the convoy: As the voyage is long, it is possible they might overtake our fleet.

But a descent on England is a very different thing. France, by the union of Belgium, has now a great extent of coast towards the north, where the shores, both in France and England, are very low. The sea is so very shallow, that ships of the line cannot approach within some miles, as is the case at Dunkirk. The descent ought to be made with gun-boats, drawing no more than two or three feet water, and where, in a moment, the whole force could be landed on the coast of England.

These light boats should have a small sail like the fishing boats, and a great number of oars. They might perform the passage in less than 48 hours, in spite of the English Squadrons, because, by means of oars, they could assist the wind so much, that although there were an English fleet in the Channel, it could not interrupt their passage in the few hours necessary to cross and land. Consider, besides, that a thousand gun-boats, with 24 and 36 pounders, is a very respectable force.

It may be said that the English may likewise have gun-boats: but these vessels not being calculated to keep the sea long, can only be useful for a coup de main. The English then would be obliged to keep them in their harbours.

The English coast, which is opposite to us, presenting a landing place in every point, it is impossible to know at what point the descent will be made, so that these vessels would be both useless and expensive. France can always know where the English vessels are stationed, while England can never know where the descent will be attempted.

**THOMAS PAINE.**  
\* The Danes and the Jutes, who so long desolated England, always chose with success these northern coasts for their expeditions. It was from a fear of invasion from this quarter, that the English so long insisted on the harbour of Dunkirk being sited up, and so violently opposed the surrender of Belgium.

**DECLARATION OF M. D'ANTRAIQUES.**  
"On the 8th of August 1797, I escaped from the French head-quarters at Milan, after having in vain waited in the expectation that Gen. Buonaparte would tell me why I am arrested, and of what I was accused. I might have escaped before, but I would not, because I foolishly thought that reason and justice still existed. Buonaparte gave orders for my arrest, tho' he assured me upon his word and honour, that he did not. Buonaparte, after having violated the French passport, required me to give my parole, or threatened to confine me in a dungeon in the Citadel."

"In giving my parole, I knew it was useless, and so I did, for he surrounded me with spies, and sent my picture to the watches of all the gates of Milan."  
"Buonaparte ten times gave me his honour that I should be discharged, and fixed the period. At first I was weak enough to believe; but I did not like to part from my wife and child.—At length I desired permission to apply to the directory, and to be conducted to Paris. He then gave me his honour, that he would not go to Udina without setting me at liberty."

"On the 14th of August I wrote to the directors, and the presidents of the councils. On the 17th Buonaparte set off without attending to my request. It was then that I escaped from this tyrant. I expected to be retaken, and to perish, but my duty called upon me to endeavour to save myself."  
"With respect to the papers found in my portfolio, I knew there was nothing in them that indicated any thing like conspiracy; but I see such use has been attempted to be made of them, and I will not sanction it by my silence."

"I am a Frenchman, an emigrant, a royalist; I am become a subject of the Emperor of Russia, and am in his service, and I never will return to republican France. Of all the parties in authority, I do not agree with one. I believe their object is more to acquire authority than to restore Louis XVIII; and I detail constitutional France in 1792, as much as republican France in 1795."

"M. Buonaparte, in the thirst of power by which he is possessed, and to further his own ambition, determined to support his Triumvirate, and destroy the council of five hundred, and particularly Pichegru. For that purpose, he pretended to disagree that I carried on a correspondence with Louis XVIII, and that he had seized that correspondence. I deny M. Buonaparte to prove that I ever had any correspondence with any member of the council of five hundred, or with any minister, since the creation of the republic. In the mean time I send an inventory of the contents of this famous portfolio, and I defy them to produce another paper except those which I state. I sent this declaration the second day of my flight, harassed, fatigued and oppressed with anxiety for my wife and son, who were left at Milan, exposed to all the fury of Buonaparte. But I would not lose a moment in destroying the plot in which they wanted to make me an instrument."

"In a short time I will publish the memoir of what passed in my captivity; but I must continue my journey, in order to find an asylum in which I can collect my ideas."  
(Signed) "THE COUNT D'ANTRAIQUES."  
Belouzeaux, Aug. 29, 1797.  
Another declaration has just been published by Fauche Borel, Printer to the King of Prussia at Neuchâtel, said to be one of the principal agents that carried on a correspondence with Pichegru. It is stated in that paper, that he is the father of a family, and continually occupied with the cares of his business. Knowing how to appreciate the blessings of living in a country which Providence has hitherto blessed by preserving it during all those tempests which have agi-

tated Europe, and taking no share in politics except that general sympathy which every man must feel for the calamities of his fellow creatures, "I was far (says he) from suspecting that they would make use of my name as a performer in a conspiracy of which so much has been said. Is this conspiracy true, or not? I do not know, nor can I establish myself as a judge; but I have a right to contradict the lying assertion of my having borne a part in it, or of being connected with men whom I have not the honor of even being known to."

"According to the papers found in the portfolio of count d'Antraigues, containing his conversation with the Count de Montgaillard, stated to have taken place in December, 1796, it is stated that my fanaticism being known, he threw his eyes upon me as a proper agent; that I carried letters from the Prince de Conde to General Pichegru, and that I am Printer to the Count d'Antraigues and the Count de Montgaillard.— This is the charge against me, founded upon a paper I never saw, and attributed to the Count d'Antraigues, without being acknowledged either by him or the Count de Montgaillard. I should not conceive myself bound to answer a charge so founded, if I did not conceive myself bound in honour not to suffer my name to be made use of against men whom I never knew. Without noticing the absurdities and the contradictions of this charge, I shall confine myself only to that part which relates to myself."

"I therefore declare, first, that I never saw or knew the Count d'Antraigues; that I never was his Printer; and that if I sold any of his works, it was in the same manner that I sold those of other persons. I also deny having any knowledge of M. de Montgaillard, or ever having been his printer.— My father, who was established at Hamburg, had advanced some money to Madame de Montgaillard, and her husband was to repay me; I saw him in 1795 upon this business, and met him twice in going from Frankfurt to Hanburgh, where my business called me. In the beginning of 1797 he paid me, and from that time I never saw him; and, thirdly, that I never carried letters from the Prince de Conde, the Count de Montgaillard, or any other persons, to General Pichegru, to whom I never spoke, and of whom I have not the least knowledge."

He concludes with begging, that, in future, those who are going to write Histories or Romances, will have the goodness not to make use of his name.

**BUONAPARTE,  
TO HIS ARMY,  
Head-Quarters, at Milan,  
24 Brumaire—Nov. 14**

**SOLDIERS,**  
I leave you to-morrow, to repair to Raftadt.—In separating myself from the army, I can only be consoled by the hope of soon finding myself again among you, struggling against new dangers.

Whatever enterprize the government assigns for the soldiers of the army of Italy, they will always prove themselves the worthy supporters of the liberty and the glory of the French name.

Soldiers, when you speak of the people whom you have conquered—or the people who owe to you their liberty—of the battles you have fought in two campaigns—add—*In two more campaigns, we shall have performed still greater achievements.*

**BUONAPARTE.**

**PARIS, January 18.**  
The executive directory has appointed general Bernadotte ambassador of the French republic, near the court of Vienna.

Bernadotte is among the number of those generals who have distinguished themselves at the head of our different armies, as much by their wisdom as their valor; and have shewn their capacity to fill all places of trust and confidence. He will have for secretary of legation, citizen Gaudin, who has already been employed in the diplomatic department.

The directory feels the necessity of accompanying this embassy to the second power of the continent, with splendor. His salary is fixed at 144,000 livres (equal to about 29,000 dollars).

Citizen Boniface, keeper of the temple, complains of a report, propagated in the journals, of the marquis d'Arvins having permission to walk out on his private affairs. He declares no such order exists.

We are assured that the celebrated sculptor Ceraichi, who was making the marble statue of Buonaparte, has been murdered in the massacre at Rome.

The diet of Arrau, (in Switzerland) has appointed two deputies to repair to Paris, one from the Canton of Zurich, Mr. Hirzel; the other from Schwitz, Mr. de Reding. They are ordered to demand the renewal of the perpetual alliance.

**MR. FRANCIS,  
SUBSCRIPTION BALL.**

The last Session, will be on Tuesday next.)

MR. FRANCIS respectfully informs the Subscribers, that the last Subscription Ball of this season, will be on **TUESDAY** the 20th of March—Ladies tickets to be had by applying to the Subscribers, or Mr. Francis, No. 71, North Eighth Street. Non-subscribers tickets to be had of Mr. Francis, or at the Assembly-Room.

Agreeable to the terms of the Select Subscription Balls, Mr. Francis gives one *extra* Ball to the Subscribers of the two Subscriptions, to close the season—Mr. F. wishes the Subscribers will be particular in the last Ball of the Subscription, in order to make such regulations for the *extra* Ball as they may deem proper and necessary, to include every convenience and elegance which they may wish to adopt. Tuition as usual.

N. B. Due notice will be given of the last Prædancing Ball.  
March 17. 3t

**Hyson and Young Hyson Tea.**  
A few chests of excellent quality, for sale, corner of Second and Pine streets. Dec 26—2001

**The Gazette.**  
**PHILADELPHIA,**  
MONDAY EVENING, March 19

The following message from the President of the United States, was read in the House of Representatives this day.

Gentlemen of the Senate, and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives, THE dispatches, from the Envoys Extraordinary of the United States to the French Republic, which were mentioned, in my message, to both Houses of Congress, of the fifth instant, have been examined and maturely considered.

While I feel a satisfaction in informing you, that their exertions, for the adjustment of the differences, between the two nations, have been sincere and unremitting, it is incumbent on me, to declare, that I perceive no ground of expectation, that the objects of their mission, can be accomplished, on terms compatible, with the safety, honor, or the essential interests of the nation.

This refusal, cannot with justice be attributed, to any want of moderation on the part of this Government, or to any indisposition to forego, secondary interests for the preservation of Peace.— Knowing it to be my duty, and believing it to be your wish, as well as that of the great body of the people, to avoid by all reasonable concessions any participation in the contentions of Europe, the powers vested in our Envoys, were commensurate with a liberal and pacific policy, and that high confidence, which might justly be reposed in the abilities patriotism and integrity of the characters to whom, the negotiations was committed. After a careful review of the whole subject, with the aid of all the information I have received, I can discern nothing, which could have insured, or contributed to, success, that has been omitted on my part, and nothing further which can be attempted, consistently with maxims, for which our country has contended, at every hazard, and which constitute the basis, of our national sovereignty.

Under these circumstances I cannot forbear to reiterate the recommendations, which have been formerly made, and to exhort you, to adopt with promptitude, decision and unanimity, such measures as the ample resources of the country afford, for the protection of our seafaring and commercial citizens; for the defence of any exposed portions of our territory; for replenishing our Armies, establishing Foundries and military manufactures; and to provide such efficient revenue, as will be necessary to defray extraordinary expenses and supply the deficiencies, which may be occasioned by depreedations on our commerce.

The present state of things, is so essentially different, from that, in which instructions were given to collectors to restrain vessels of the United States from sailing in an armed condition, that the principle, on which those orders were issued, has ceased to exist. I therefore deem it proper to inform Congress, that I no longer conceive myself justifiable in continuing them, unless in particular cases, where there may be reasonable ground of suspicion, that such vessels are intended to be employed contrary to law.

In all your proceedings, it will be important to manifest a zeal, vigor and concert in defence of the national rights, proportioned to the danger, with which they are threatened.

**JOHN ADAMS.**  
United States, }  
19 March, 1798. }

**APPOINTMENTS.**  
John Quincy Adams, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to his Majesty the King of Prussia, to be a Commissioner with full powers to negotiate a Treaty of Amity and Commerce with Sweden.

Edward Hinman, of Connecticut, to be maker of a revenue cutter.  
Samuel Winslow, of Massachusetts, to be Surveyor and Inspector for the Port of Thomaston.

**IMPORTED,**  
In the Brig BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, from Boudeaux,

- Claret in casks
  - White wine in half casks
  - Sweet oil of a superior quality in boxes and baskets
  - Lunelle
  - Sauveterne
  - Macarty, and Medoc
  - Wines in Cases.
  - Thomas Murtaghey, No. 11, Walnut Street.
  - Who has on hand,
  - Bordeaux Brandy in pipes
  - Irish Whisky
  - Medoc, and Sauveterne
  - Sherry wine in pipes and quarter casks
  - Rota
  - Pimento in bags
  - Two trunks of Umbrellas, and About 4000 bushels Liverpool Salt.
- March 19  
mw&fi

**NEW-THEATRE.**  
**MR. WIGNELL'S NIGHT.**  
**THIS EVENING, March 19,**  
Will be presented, (not acted this season) a celebrated COMEDY (written by the author of Columbus, Clifton in the Wood, &c) called,  
**The Way to Get Married**  
To which will be added—and with the original Overture and French music, (composed by Mr. Rochfort.) a Grand, Serious PANTOMIME BALLET, called,  
**The Death of Capt. Cook**  
With new Scenery, Machinery, Dresses and Decorations.  
On Wednesday, (not acted this season) a Comedy, called *The School for Scandal*—with the *Agreeable Surprise*, For the Benefit of Mrs. MERRY.  
\* \* Mrs. MARSHALL'S Night, will be on Friday next.

**Schuylkill permanent Bridge.**  
Extra 3 from "An Act to authorize the Governor of this Commonwealth to incorporate a company for erecting a permanent Bridge over the river Schuylkill, at or near the city of Philadelphia."

BE it therefore enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That Richard Peters, John Perot, Godfrey Higa, Matthew McConnell, and William Sheaff, or any three of them, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners to do and perform the several duties herein after mentioned, that is to say:

They shall and may, on or before the first day of June next procure one or more books, as they shall think necessary, and therein enter as follows, viz:—"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do promise to pay to the President, Directors and Company, for erecting a bridge over the river Schuylkill, at or near the city of Philadelphia, the sum of one dollar at the time of subscribing, and one dollar at three months thereafter; for every share of stock in the said company, in proportion to our respective names, and the residue thereof at the rate of ten dollars for each share, in such manner and proportions, and at such times as shall be determined by the President and Directors chosen in pursuance of an act of General Assembly, entitled, "An Act to authorize the Governor of this Commonwealth to incorporate a company for erecting a permanent bridge over the river Schuylkill, at or near the city of Philadelphia,"—and shall thereupon proceed to receive subscriptions for the stock of the said company, which is hereby declared and intended to be the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, divided into fifteen thousand shares, at ten dollars each, at such times and places as they shall think proper, of which public notice shall be given in three or more newspapers (one of which shall be in the German language) printed in the city of Philadelphia, for at least twenty days before the first day of meeting; and if before the said stock be completed, they shall adjourn for more than three days, notice of the time and place when and where the Commissioners will next receive subscriptions, shall be given in at least one newspaper, printed in the said city; and it shall be lawful for any person, body, politic, or corporate, to subscribe for as many shares, not exceeding one hundred in one day, as he, they or they shall choose; provided always, that every person offering to subscribe as aforesaid, in his own name, or any other name, shall previously pay to the attending commissioner one dollar for every share to be subscribed, out of which shall be defrayed the expenses attending taking such subscriptions and other incidental charges, and the remainder shall be paid over to the treasurer of the corporation, as soon as the same shall be organized and the officers chosen, as is herein after mentioned; but the said commissioners shall receive three thousand shares, which shall be appropriated by the President and Directors, and used, if the same be found requisite, for the purposes herein after mentioned, or vesting therein the monies to be applied for a sinking fund, to free the bridge and to enable the President, Directors and company, to purchase there-with, if the same can be done, a site or place for erecting a bridge.

Such of the said reserved shares as are not used for these purposes, to be open for further subscription, or sale, as the President and Directors shall, according to circumstances, deem proper.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That when one hundred persons, or more, shall have subscribed five thousand shares in the said stock, the said Commissioners, respectively, shall certify under their hands and seals, the names of the subscribers, and the number of shares subscribed by, or appointed to each subscriber, to the Governor of this Commonwealth, and thereupon it shall and may be lawful for the Governor, by letters patent, under his hand and seal of the state, to create and erect the subscribers; and if the said subscription be not full at the time, those also, who shall afterwards subscribe to the number aforesaid into one body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name, title and style of "The President, Directors and Company, for erecting a permanent bridge over the river Schuylkill, at or near the city of Philadelphia;" and by the said name the said subscribers shall have perpetual succession; and all privileges and franchises incident to a corporation, and shall be capable of taking and holding their said capital stock, and the increase and profits thereof; and of enlarging the same from time to time, by new subscriptions, in such manner and form as they shall think proper, if such enlargement shall be found necessary to fulfil the intent of this act; and of taking, purchasing and holding to them and their successors in fee simple, or for any less estate, all such lands, tenements, hereditaments and estate, real and personal, as shall be necessary and convenient to them, in the prosecution of their works, and the same to sell and dispose of at their pleasure; and of suing and being sued, and of doing all and every other matter and thing, which a corporation or body politic may lawfully do.

The subscribers Commissioners appointed in the act before mentioned for the purposes therein expressed, hereby give notice agreeably thereto, that books are provided, as the law directs, and that we will proceed to receive subscriptions for the Company Stock, on the 9th day of April next, at the City Hall, in the city of Philadelphia. The subscriptions will be received from ten o'clock in the morning of the said day, till two o'clock, P. M. and the books will continue open during those hours of succeeding days, at the same place, until one hundred persons, or more, if all have subscribed five thousand shares in the said stock, as in and by the said act is directed and required.

**RICHARD PETERS,  
JOHN PEROT,  
GODFREY HIGA,  
MATTHEW MCCONNELL,  
WILLIAM SHEAFF.**  
Philadelphia, 19th March, 1798. 2401f

**TO RENT,**  
A good three story House,  
TWO rooms on each floor, with a convenient Kitchen—in Front, near South-street.—Enquire of the Printer.  
march 3—300 3w