

are singularly important as they serve to clear up many of the doubts which have existed for some time past concerning the actual state of affairs on the continent.

We were well justified in regarding as very equivocal the news of the pretended pacification between the German empire and France, to which Prussia and Austria were total strangers. A new incident which has been so long talked of that its consequences were foreseen, namely the arrival of the Russian troops on the territories of the German empire, which is now no longer a matter of doubt, since the French plenipotentiaries at Rastadt have made it the ground work of an official complaint, will soon put an end to the waverings and concessions of the deputation of the empire. All the notes which the French ministers may address to the emperor, or to the emperor who called them to his assistance, will not be able to stop the march of the troops. One column of this army has taken the route to Brunn, the capital of Moravia, which indicates that it is destined for Upper Suabia; and another column marches by Billita, which confirms what we have stated, that it was intended to protect Bohemia and Franconia, where the Austrians are the more exposed, having but few troops in those provinces. The French plenipotentiaries have declared that the entry of any of the troops on the territory of the empire shall be considered as a declaration of war.

It is easy to foresee what will be the immediate result of hostilities to the southern parts of the German empire, viz. for those parts which are not situated behind the line of neutrality. Every part which is within reach of the French armies will be invaded by them; whilst, on the other hand, the Austrian armies will force into action the countries of Bavaria, Upper Suabia, and Franconia, now occupied by their troops. It is thus that the states of the empire, in detaching themselves from the political body of which they formed an integral part, have placed themselves in the situation of experiencing all the miseries of war, without enjoying any of the advantages of peace.

Although the French papers contain the news of the armies of Italy and of Rome down to a very late period, it does not appear that they have obtained any great successes since the Neapolitan army was repulsed in repeated attacks to dislodge the French from their strong position near Civita Castellana, and since it evacuated Rome. All that the Paris journals say about Naples is only a repetition of the reports before in circulation of 80,000 Neapolitans being destroyed, 72,000 prisoners taken, besides 99 pieces of cannon, &c. &c. accompanied with invectives against all crowned heads, and particularly against the king of Naples and his general. But inattentively examining all the French accounts, it appears that on the 17th inst. a courier arrived at the Luxembourg from the army of Italy, the contents of whose dispatches did not transpire. Another courier had arrived two days before, who reported that the French were marching against Leghorn, to drive the Neapolitans from thence. It is however probable that they will have previously evacuated that place, and have gone to assist in the defence of Naples.

From the silence of the Directory in publishing the news by the last couriers, it is to be presumed at least that the progress of the French army has been stopped, until preparations were made for forcing the passages between Rome and Naples, which it appears the Neapolitans are determined to defend. It consequently follows, that the republican army occupied at that period nearly a line extending from one sea to the other; the right wing supported at Pescara by the Adriatic, the center by Aquila, and the left wing by the Mediterranean, on this side of Terracina. Pescara is situated at the distance of twelve leagues from the frontier of the Roman state, at the mouth of the river of the same name; Aquila is in the mountains, about seven or eight leagues from the same frontiers; and Terracina is also in that territory. Such a position afforded sufficient time for the king of Naples to receive assistance from the Austrians, as well as support from the Russians at Corfu. The body of 3000 men embarked at Venice were probably destined for his relief, and the troops in Dalmatia, of whose operations no intelligence could have been yet received, were from proximity of their situation to the kingdom of Naples, still more capable of forming a junction with the Neapolitans.

The state of affairs in Italy; the impossibility in which the emperor is placed of preserving the kingdom of Naples and the duchy of Tuscany from the invasion of the French without taking up arms; the difficulty which he would find in defending himself ultimately against a perfidious and ambitious enemy, who might be enabled to add to the strength of France, of Holland, of Belgium, of Germany on this side of the Rhine, and of Switzerland, the entire and absolute possession of Italy, have uniformly appeared to us sufficient motives to induce the Emperor, sooner or later to recommence hostilities. The march of the Russian troops, a measure evidently originating from his own application, removes every doubt on this head; and although the inclemency of the season may perhaps occasion for some time an armistice, between the armies of Switzerland and Suabia, we can no longer entertain any doubts with respect to his imperial majesty's determination of prosecuting the war. It is even to be presumed, that the first intelligence which we shall receive, will announce the commencement of hostilities in Italy. The removal of general Joubert's head quarters, from Milano Modena, tends to confirm this opinion. It more particularly points out the apprehensions entertained, lest the Austrians, confining themselves to act on the defensive against the formidable barrier of the Minco, should attempt to transfer the scene of hostilities to the right bank of the Lower Po, although some time would be necessary to penetrate that way into the kingdom of Naples, such a diversion must, by retaining

the French forces in the Cisalpine republic, necessarily retard the progress of their army in the Neapolitan territory.

The Gazette.

PHILADELPHIA,

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 8.

COLLOT D'HERBOIS.

My readers have no doubt become as tired of this odious and detestable name, at they have long been of the nefarious devices of its most impudent and most infamous wearer; but the picture I have begun, however disgusting, must be finished; and I flatter myself, that in those shades of it, the most replete with disgust it will not be found the least useful. It is not always ours to work in the delicate and vivid tints of glowing fancy; the deep sombre of vice must but too often shade the fairest and most beautiful picture we can draw. The severe, the often disregarded voice of public duty, loudly calls on us, at an hour of unexampled depravity, to leave the lash and the goad, and the *lectura criminum* for which they are the atonements, to defend, in the mail of truth, with the spear of justice, into the cave of Gacus, and the fens of Lerna. The time has too long been out of joint—daring villains have too long passed unpunished, by means of that very superiority in daring, which should have drawn down weightier chastisement, while the small fry have been devoured by a vengeance, which, though just, has been too limited, and because limited, has been but imperfectly useful. The good old fashion of plucking vice by the beard, however high, and however powerful, is once more reviving, and the emblems of its revival are beheld with rapture, and cherished, I can proudly and happily say, with gratitude: Indeed, the connection is indissoluble and immortal.—Every stroke that falls upon a villain, adds something to the flock of distributive justice, something to the encouragement and comfort of virtue.

From what has been premised, it follows, that the public will hear with great complacency, of the afflictions, defeats, mortifications, and disasters, of one of the most abominable miscreants that ever polluted the pale of a decent community, or sunk into utter ignominy and shame an office of honor and trust. Gacus has been dragged from his cave; and the red-hot iron of public scorn, momentarily sears his triturated heart. Those who suppose it impossible to make such a scintilla feel any sense of his own baseness and depravity, are thus clearly proved to be mistaken. A mere fungous excrement as he is, a wart upon the earth, accursed of good men and blasted of Heaven, he yet could rise to eminence (such as it was) and figure in his chariot. Had his crimes deposited him in a work-house, or a dungeon, for the remainder of his otherwise venemous life, then, indeed, would he have been an object for different emotions; but being ordered otherwise, it became necessary to call in extraneous means in aid of the deficiency of public virtue and public justice. There have not been appealed to in vain. The chamberlain has interposed his veto against the repetition of the puppet-show, and this odious *Punch*, retires with a weighty load of reproach, from his ridiculous and contemptible mockery of authority. But his occupation is not gone; all we have been able to effect is, to strip it of its enticing qualities, and to dull the false glows with which infiduous art had varnished it. What remains for us, is, to see that it shine no more.

James Alex. Dallas, Esq. Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, called at my office some two or three weeks since, accompanied by three persons, two of whom I did not at that time know. The Secretary told me that his name was Dallas, asked me if the paper which he held in his hand was my paper, and if I meant him by the paragraph, quoted in the Bill of Indictment. To the first question, I had no hesitation to reply in the affirmative; to the second, I answered, that I was not author of the paragraph in question, and therefore should not pretend to say who or what was meant by it. In order to throw me off my guard, by leading me to suppose that I had been completely betrayed, he then rejoined, that he asked me this question merely for form's sake—that he had with him a witness whose testimony would sufficiently establish the point. Whatever amazement this might have excited in my mind, it did not answer the end proposed. He again, very formally and solemnly repeated his question, with a labored appeal to my feelings. I told him, that his appeal was thrown away, for that I was callous to anything that could come from him—my first answer was repeated. "Jesus God!" exclaimed he, "and is a man to be put off, in this way?" I again ask you, "Do you, or do you not, by the term Collet d'Herbois, in this paragraph, mean J. A. Dallas?" On the impudent repetition of this question, I should most assuredly have kicked him, had he not entered my house, under the sanction of a gentleman's presence whom I was bound to respect; instead of this species of resentment, so well merited, I again repeated my answer—that I was not the author of the paragraph, and of course had nothing to say as to its meaning and object—that I, therefore, could not be supposed to mean any body or any thing; this answer, by consent, was written down, in doing which the scribe occupied more than half an hour—whether owing to the mazy state of his intellects, or to his desire of interlarding some quirk or quibble, which might serve his master, is not now worth enquiry. The Secretary illuminated this tedious by continued flashes of merriment, to the great amusement of his two friends. He damn'd a certain Mr. Stock by the most hyperbolical encomiums, and injured a gentleman of whom I had a good opinion, by his praise of him as a clever fellow and a very modest young man. The half hour having expired, and the few lines

having been completed by the scribe, the Secretary, with a vast deal of mildness, deliberation and composure, uttered the following truly curious declarations,—that he was no chevalier, and of course should not challenge me out to single combat—that he was not a ruffian, and of course should not attempt a boxing match with me,—no, no, he should take a far different course. He should not, indeed, hire bravo's to assassinate me, but, if ever I published any personal attack upon him, he would hire a negro to beat me with a cudgel, and he would stand by to see that he performed his work faithfully. He immediately withdrew himself.

The following result was a matter of course: In the MAYORS' COURT, Of the CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, April term, 1799.

City of Philadelphia, ff. THE Grand Inquest of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, inquiring for the city of Philadelphia, upon their oaths and affirmations respectively, do present, that John Ward Fenno, late of the said city, printer, maliciously, deceitfully and wickedly contriving and intending, Alexander James Dallas, of the said city, Esq. to deprive of his good name, fame and credit, and him the said Alexander James Dallas to bring to the greatest hatred, scandal, contempt and infamy with all the citizens of this commonwealth, on the 13th day of March, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine, at the city aforesaid, and within the jurisdiction of this court (the said John having before that declared, to wit in the city aforesaid, that by the name, title, and designation of Collet d'Herbois which he the said John bore that time, in a certain Newspaper by him printed and published, in the said city, called, "Gazette of the United States and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser" had caused to be used, printed, and published, by the said John meant and intended the said Alexander James Dallas) with force and arms did falsely, wilfully and maliciously print and publish and cause to be printed and published in the said Newspaper, called, "Gazette of the United States and Philadelphia Daily Advertiser," the following false, slanderous and malicious words, to wit, "We are informed, that the price" &c. to the great scandal and infamy of the said Alexander James Dallas, to the evil example of all others in the like case offending and against the peace and dignity of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JARED INGERSOLL.

Witnesses: Alexander J. Dallas, Peter Miercken, Joseph B. M'Kean, Thos. Wignell, Chas. Swift,

IGNORAMUS.

Not being versed in the doctrine of libels, as the Secretary observed to me, (which, by the bye, as here practised, would puzzle Thomas Aquinas, and all the deep doctors of the last three centuries to expound) I cannot know who drew up this bill of indictment; but that it is admirably done, I may think and say, though my law knowledge, unlike that of the profound Secretary, be not so wide as a church door nor so deep as a well. Am I to complain of having such intentions as this attributed to me—contriving and intending, Alex. J. Dallas, of the said city, Esquire, to deprive of his good name, fame, and credit, and him the said A. J. D. to bring to the greatest hatred, scandal, contempt and infamy, with all the citizens of this Commonwealth? An exception might indeed be taken at the term *with*. Some modern language maker, I believe it is Dr. Webster, tells us that, "along with" is a vulgarism, and that the same idea, is fully expressed without the thus redundant word, "along"; ergo "with" means "along with"; and thus a sense is given to this passage, which, I judge will be deemed utterly preposterous, to say the least of it. For it is certainly not very equitable, that all the good citizens of this Commonwealth should be "deprived of their good name, fame and credit, and they, the said good citizens of this Commonwealth brought to the greatest hatred, scandal, contempt and infamy, with [or "along with"] him the said James Alexander." Behold besides a *reductio ad absurdum*! All the good citizens of this Commonwealth, along with the said Alexander, (who, I am authorized to conclude from the peculiarity of the wording, is not himself one of those aforesaid good citizens) being brought to the greatest hatred, scandal, contempt and infamy, I am at a loss to conceive in whom all these horrid emotions are to be excited towards them the good citizens aforesaid. If it is meant, that each man was to hate, scandalize and despise not only himself but every other, I deem the whole to be bottomed on wrong grounds; for I am well persuaded, he, the said James Alexander, would never have attempted to impede my progress in such a work. This being a point, however, of small note, I repeat my general approbation of the composition.

The "good name" of Dallas has long since taken its departure from those regions wherein I have ever attempted to soar or to delve; of course my endeavors now further to elaborate it, would be in vain. But as it may have entered into the imaginations of some people, that he has actually sustained a wrong, it is proper to add here some few remarks, which to the generality of those I have any respect for might justly be deemed superfluous. However infamous a man may believe another to be, however low, mean, despicable and grovelling, and however boldly and openly he may utter these his opinions, it behoves him to be at all times, the more particularly therefor guarded, against doing him a wrong; because, out of the very abundance of his evil deeds, grows an abhorrence at that exaggeration, which passing bounds sufficiently extensive, goes to represent him an inconceivable monster.

In whatever I have written or published on the subject in hand, will be found some fair, proper and honorable object for pub-

lic reproach; and how any man but the one named could suppose himself alluded to, by such a paragraph as that above, it is difficult to account for on any other ground, than the accidental existence of a similar fact with regard to him. Of this I nothing know, and nothing care. Whether the fact ever took place with regard to him or not, or with regard to any other of his family or name, I never enquired.

When Dallas came to me, I told him, that if he supposed himself alluded to, the author was his proper object, if he really was in search of reparation for this real or supposed injury. A suit or a prosecution may procure a man revenge; but never yet yielded satisfaction. The best reputation is tarnished by too much handling. But revenge, not justice, was the object he had in view—other satires, circumstances actually opprobrious, the real grounds of his mortification—this far-fetched, hard-strained application of an extremely remote circumstance, only the flanking-horse to his design. In pursuing this design, how low, abject, and base do we find him! One Swift, who is either a taylor or a pettifogging attorney, somewhere in the precincts of Irish town, having gained, for a wonder, the ear of a gentleman, by the most insidious and abominable deceit and duplicity, flung up some expression that fell from him, and carried it, good dog! with additions and distortions, to his master. Together they go, overjoyed as two thieves on discovering a rich booty. The last dresses up a pitiable tale, too weak, and too palpably false to require refutation,—weeps, sobs and sighs—enveigles this gentleman, by deceiving him with regard to his errand, to accompany him on an expedition the absurd object of which was, to ensnare a man into acknowledgments to be applied to his injury or if possible to his ruin. Was ever such baseness, meanness, insolence and folly before displayed! Here, he displays nothing of the indignant resentment of an injured man—polite to affectation, pleasant, gay and jocular, he relates with glee an humorous anecdote, and eulogizes with perfect nonchalance the comedy of the day. He makes no demand for the author, until after he has acquainted me of his resolution to prosecute me; and then tells me, that he wishes to know the author, in order to prosecute him also. Finding, notwithstanding the depth of his craft, and the profound snare he had laid, that I was out of the reach of his subtlety, not because I was too cunning for him, but because I had nothing to conceal, he then closed his proceedings with the threat before related. This could come only from a coward and a fool;—it is too mean for our indignation—and contempt is the strongest emotion it excites. To that contempt I bequeath him—Being already in the full enjoyment of it, I can wish him no added afflictions to those he endures. I will rather hope, so remarkable an instance of a deep, deluging and depraved demagogue, overreaching himself by his own folly, may operate as a warning to deter others from cursing the country by similar crimes.

On Saturday evening last a detachment of the cavalry of this city arrived in town from the camp near Sellers's, on the Bethlehem road, 31 miles from Philadelphia, having in custody the noted Fries and John Eberhart, committed by Judge Peters for high treason.

Fries was taken on Friday afternoon, about five miles from the camp, by a detachment of cavalry dispatched for the purpose. He was holding a sale at vendue, when the troops approached; and made no attempt to escape until they appeared in sight, when he ran through some fields into a wood, and was taken after a pursuit of near two miles. Eberhart was taken at his own house, by another detachment, which left the camp about sunset the same evening, and after a very long ride, (between 40 and 50 miles) returned to camp before day-break, having called at the houses of several of the insurgents, without finding them at home, they having, most probably, fled at the approach of the troops.

The prisoners were lodged in the jail of this city.

The several troops of horse from the city were quartered on Thursday night at different houses near the Spring-house tavern, and on the next evening pitched their tents near Sellers's.

The troops were on the point of moving further up, on Saturday at noon, and were to encamp at Quaker Town that evening. They were in high health and spirits.—A company of artillery and several companies of infantry were encamped near the cavalry; forming together a very respectable force.

Lieut. Williams, of the first troop of volunteer cavalry, and Robert Goodloe Harper, Esquire, are appointed aids to the commander in chief.

Judge Peters arrived at head quarters on Saturday morning, at eleven o'clock.

Departed this life, on Wednesday the 3d instant, after a short but severe illness, Mrs. ANN FISHER, wife of Doctor James Fisher—universally beloved and universally regretted—in her grave lie buried the hopes of her family—the happiness of her husband—the affection and admiration of her acquaintances. Young, beautiful and virtuous—dying under the most interesting circumstances, the heart finds it difficult to reconcile the inscrutable decree, and sinks on viewing the untimely dissolution. But who shall dare dispute the justice or the wisdom of Heaven? that power who afflicts, can support—may it shed the balm of consolation on the soul of the sorrowful partner, and preserve the infant pledge of their affection. A friend whose heart is deeply impressed whose tears fall in honor of her memory, and who will never cease to cherish the recollection of her virtues, pays to her this small tribute.

Kent County, Delaware, April 3d 1799.

One McMahon, a fellow who arrived in this country from Ireland, about 3 months ago, was this morning, by the verdict of twelve independent jurors, declared guilty of having assaulted and calumniated Mr. Andrew Brown of this city, to fight with pistols.

Baltimore, April 5.

Arrived yesterday, the schooner *Milford*, captain Gold, 21 days from Curacao. Ship *Montezuma* appeared off Curacao the 9th March, after taking a French letter of marque brig, commanded by captain Mallet, and sending her down to Jamaica; the prisoners were put on shore at Curacao, where captain Murray got a supply of fresh provisions, &c. being off the island until the 13th March, sent orders on shore to the American vessels that were ready, that he would convey them thro' the passage.

The *Milford* came out in company with the schooner *Brothers*, Nimrod, and Little John, of Baltimore; and brig *Jane Maria*, of New-York. On the 17th, at three P. M. the *Montezuma* boarded a Danish barque and Swedish brig. On the 18th, fell in with an English floop of war brig; sent her boat on board of the *Montezuma*, but did not detain her more than half an hour; did not board any of the merchantmen. On the 19th, at two P. M. off the island of Soana, fell in with an English frigate, who sent her boat on board of the *Montezuma*, but did not detain her more than half an hour. At six A. M. our convoy took leave of us in lat. 19, 30, for Jamaica: on the 23d of March, in lat 27, long. 72, 34' parted with the fleet.

COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.

Philadelphia, April 6, 1799.

For sale at public auction,

At the Custom House, on Tuesday the 7th May, 1799, the following Merchandises, which remain in the Custom House Stores more than nine months unclaimed by the owners or consignees thereof.

RS No. 26 one trunk containing linen, muslin and dimity
FIW 2 one case containing plush
C&Co. 1 one box containing tapes
P
PD one box music books
one box sewing needles
four chests of Chinese curries, &c. large paintings
Mrs. Boulton, one box indigo
IM one box containing shoes and cotton
Johua Gilpin one box garden feeds
one box containing cotton stockings, shirts, pocket handkerchiefs & shoes
I & T three boxes containing six hundred and sixty one numbers of Winterbottom's general description of America
X one box soap
912 four hds. beans
W one bag coffee
M two barrels walnuts
one barrel pimento
one box sugar
P&C 18 eight cases guns
PD 1 one case containing a forte piano
one box artificial flowers.
April 8 dt7M

One Hundred Dollars Reward.

AN away from the Subscriber, on Tuesday the second of this inst. April, living in Kent county, Maryland, near Chester Town, the following described Negroes, viz. William, about 5 feet 6 inches high, a yellowish complexioned fellow, about thirty years of age, formerly the property of doctor William Matthews, he has been very much given to running away, and has been so often described in the public papers within this twelve months that any further description of him seems needless.—Jacob, about 6 feet high, and about 32 years of age, of a common Negro complexion, down look, his little finger of his left hand stands straight, occasioned by the cut of a felle. Patt, the wife of said Jacob, about 27 years of age, a small light made woman of a yellowish complexion, with thick lips for an American of her stature, she is a very good needle woman, and spins on either small or great wheel, and is very handy in any common house work.—Two children of the said Jacob's and Patt's, the one a male child about four years old, the other a female child about two years old. The above described Negroes took with them, besides their own wearing apparel, three coats, two of which were linsley cloth of a light grey color, both new; one of the two was a great deal too large for either of the said fellows; the other coat of brown cloth, half worn; three under jackets, one a velvet, another a drab, the other a light colored linsley cloth do, one new pair of Calf skin shoes, lined with linen and bound with leather, one pair of boots remarkably large in the legs, several pairs of stockings and a silver watch, all stolen: their own wearing apparel as follows—William had on a light-horn regimental coat worked with silver twist, (which coat he had when he was brought home to me the first of February last, a round sailor jacket (blue), thickset breeches, patched with corduroy in the stride, with other necessary clothing. Jacob, two linsley cloth coats, lead colored, one new the other half worn, blue linsley cloth jacket, half worn, two pairs of linsley cloth trousers, of a lead colour, the one new the other half worn, tolerable good shoes and stockings. Patt has every day clothing, and her children wore home-made linen and linsley, her other clothing not so well known (it is uncertain which course they may take, as William is such an experienced coarser.

Any person or persons apprehending said negroes or founding them, so that their master may get them again, shall be entitled to the above reward, or in proportion for either of them, that is to say, 40 dollars for each of the fellows, and twenty dollars for the wench and children, and if brought home, all reasonable charges paid by

BENSON GEARS.

N. B.—All masters of vessels and others, are forbid harboring them at their peril. B. G. April 8, 1799 dsW

Landing at Pine-street wharf,

From on board the schooner *Hannah*, captain Barlow, from Charleston,
100 ceres } RICE
76 halt ditto }
55 bales cotton, 34 of which are entitled to drawback,
FOR SALE BY
Robert C. Latimer.
April 8 dsT