

Gazette of the United States.

[No. L.]

S A T U N D A Y, OCTOBER 3, 1789.

[Published on Wednesday and Saturday.]

THE TABLET.—No. L.

"There is a propensity in mankind to resist as well as to enforce dominion."

PERHAPS there is not more nicety in any question, than whether men are more averse to obey than to be obeyed. Few dispositions are naturally prone to give obedience, and probably as few are willing to relinquish it. From this original fountain have flowed perpetual streams of oppression on the one hand and sedition on the other. The secret of curbing the excesses of these propensities is found to consist in a well-balanced, well-administered government, and it admits of no other remedy. Reason, religion, benevolence, good humour, patriotism and every other useful attribute, that can be named, are utterly inadequate to the purpose of restraining the turbulent spirit of man from enormities.

As the propensity I am speaking of is a natural one, it discovers itself most strongly among men least removed from a state of nature. A savage has more of it than can be found in any possible stage of civilization. Tho the objects, about which his will is exercised, are few and limited, yet wherever he fixes a purpose he disdains resistance. This love of rule and hatred of opposition likewise break out, with far greater fury, among the lowest and vilest part of the community, than among the sensible and enlightened. The cruelty of a waggoner over his horses is incomparably greater, than any acts of severity that are ever exercised by a man, who moves in a higher sphere of life. Overseers of negroes and other laborers discover a temper more domineering and wrathful, than can often find a place in the breasts of those whose employment is less servile.

When a monarch or other elevated characters discover an arbitrary, oppressive disposition, they excite the attention and complaints of the world. The infamy of their conduct is perpetuated and mankind are warned against such evils. But there are many persons whose whole life is a scene of cruelty and revenge, and yet whose enormities pass unpunished or unregarded. The fact is, man is too ferocious a being to be let loose. In many respects the law restrains him. There are however a thousand instances which the law can not reach, where men exhibit striking demonstrations that one of the most natural features of the human character, is the love of enforcing as well as resisting dominion. The propensity to do both is so active and strong, that no comparison can be drawn to settle the question, which is the most universal and irresistible. From these sketches we deduce the necessity of checking the extremes to which the different situations of men are liable. Men in power must be restrained, and so must men out of power. One will otherwise be licentious and outrageous, the other oppressive and tyrannical. These hasty remarks are introductory to a more copious discussion of the subject, which may probably be brought forward in some future speculation.

NEWPORT, SEPTEMBER 24.

The following Address of the Society of Cincinnati in this State, was lately presented to his Excellency the President of the United States, by the Rev. Dr. MANNING:—To which his Excellency was pleased to return the answer thereunto annexed.

To the PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES.

SIR,
EXPRESSIONS of respect and attachment are a tribute which the citizens of America owe to your prudence, your patriotism, and valor; to the successful display of which, they are already indebted for their freedom; and from a continuance of the exercise of those qualities they may anticipate the highest state of political happiness: under these impressions, Sir, we the Society of the Cincinnati of the State of Rhode-Island, most sincerely congratulate you upon your appointment to the chief magistracy of the Union, by the unanimous suffrage of more than three millions of free citizens; an appointment rendered the more dignified by the manner in which it was conferred, and the more pleasing to your fellow-citizens from a conviction that they could no where place the sacred deposit, for which they have so long and arduously contended, with equal safety to themselves, and honor to their country. We cannot help expressing at the same time the strong obligations we feel for the sacrifice of domestic ease and retirement, to which we are sensible the love of your country alone could have prompted you—and although we are not admitted to a participation of the good effects of the government over which you so deservedly preside, yet we fondly flatter

ourselves that the period is not far distant, when the mistaken zeal which has lately prevailed in this State, will give way to a more enlightened policy. We can only add, Sir, our ardent wishes for your health and happiness. Long, long may the United States be blessed with a life to which they are so highly indebted, and may the close of your days be as peaceful and happy to yourself, as the meridian of them has been useful and glorious to your country.

ISAAC SENTER, President.

ROBERT ROGERS, Sec'y.

Rhode-Island, September 3, 1789.

To the President and Members of the Rhode-Island State Society of the Cincinnati.

GENTLEMEN,

IN returning my grateful thanks for the flattering and affectionate sentiments expressed in your address of the 3d instant, I beg you will do justice to the sincerity of my regard, which reciprocates, with great pleasure, the warmest wishes for your happiness, political and personal.

Under a persuasion of the candor and support of my fellow-citizens, I yielded obedience to the voice of my country—and impressed with a sense of duty, I forsook the pleasures of domestic retirement, to promote (if my best exertions can have such tendency) the object of a dearer interest—Those expectations of support have been amply fulfilled, and my fondest hope of their candor has been gratified by a kind and partial country.

I am much pleased, Gentlemen, with the hope, which you entertain, that mistaken zeal will give way to enlightened policy—and I desire to repeat to your society, assurances of the most affectionate esteem.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

United States, September 14, 1789.

MARIA ANTONIETTA of AUSTRIA, QUEEN of FRANCE,

TO THE NATION.

MY heart was yet bleeding at the loss of a Prince to whom I had given birth, when it was assailed by sorrows of a much more distressing nature. All France was in tears, groaning under the weight of oppression: The horrors of an approaching famine had nearly reduced the people to despair, and I hear my name mentioned with murmuring and impatience—Suddenly I was informed that all Paris was in arms, and that fire and sword were desolating the capital—In a moment I saw my court disperse and fly far away from me. My royal comfort hastened immediately to his good city, carrying thither at least that internal peace which the purity of his principles has always made him to enjoy, and which the consciousness of his love for his people made him certain of imparting to them—but nothing could quiet my tender feelings, alarmed for the citizens of Paris and for all France, whose universal desolation filled my heart with unutterable distress.

Thus forsaken and reduced to the most deplorable situation, I shut myself up with my children—I pressed them a thousand and a thousand times to my bosom—I mixed my tears and bitter cries with their infant wailings; in their tender and innocent caresses I could find some alleviation to my own misfortunes, but those of the nation left me inconsolable.

A Princess, whom Heaven has formed and bestowed on mortals for the happiness of all those to whom her cares may extend, and for the satisfaction of all who know her, the most tender and affectionate of women, came and mixed her tears with mine.—Ye Frenchmen! she is my cousin—the DUCHESS OF ORLEANS, (with the liveliest gratitude I mention her name, the sound of which is as grateful to your ears as her amiable person is dear to your souls). The Duchess of Orleans opened her heart to me.—What an inexhaustible source of riches and consolation was there! O what a powerful support against misfortunes, a woman, nay, even a reigning Princess may find in a virtuous friend! May this holy truth be forever deeply engraved in the heart of every mortal woman who is destined to sit upon a throne.—It will teach her how difficult it is, from that exalted seat, to make a proper choice of friends; it will lay open to her the falsehood and treachery of courtiers, and preserve her from the dangerous poison which infects every court.

As sincere as she is tender, endued with courage equal to her sweetness and generosity, this true friend, in the effusion of her soul, could not dissemble from me that, I was loudly accused by the nation to be the author of its calamities.—How lively and moving were her expressions!—What a language they spoke to my heart!—It was oppressed.—It was torn with grief.—Nothing less than the affectionate and unwearied cries of that Princess, could have made me bear so rude a shock without expiring with grief.

O ye, whose wise discernment has never suffered you to remain long under any error! Ye just and enlightened nation! Ye FRENCHMEN! whose name alone is the clogium of your minds! Ye people, cherished by the Princess who enjoys the inestimable advantage of reigning over you, and who now addresses you with a confidence that is due to you on so many accounts! Ye models of love for your Sovereigns as well as for your country! Ye heroes! whose great and valiant souls have made you so often shed your blood for those Sovereigns as well as for that country! Can it then be possible that you have not known—that you have forgot your Dauphiness, who possesses all your tenderness, and who ever since has so sincerely loved you? Ever since the alliance which has united her to the Prince who has afterwards become your King until this melancholy era, when her misfortune compels her to justify herself, she never ceased to cherish you—she had adopted you from inclination, as she had your August Dauphin. Yes, ye Frenchmen, in allying myself to you, I had placed all my felicity as well as all my glory in one day sharing his throne and reigning over your hearts. In the testimonies of love which I received from you with so much satisfaction, and the remembrance of which will ever be infinitely dear to me, be sure that you expressed no more than a just gratitude. Ever since the crown has been placed on the head of my Royal Consort, my heart never ceased to be filled with those sentiments; they are invariable as their nature—as their principle:—I will preserve and cherish them until the Divinity is pleased to call me to his bosom; here let me renew the solemn promise, to which I swear by the sacred and precious title of QUEEN OF FRANCE.

But I will confirm to you with my own mouth, this promise so pleasing to my heart—I will go into the bosom of the capital, and there expand my soul into that of the nation: I will let them see all my grief; and I sincerely wish that same nation may bring back serenity and joy. My principal wish is to persuade the people, that it will be the important business of my whole life, to promote their felicity with all my power. Ah! may I one day make them forget, that, deceitful courtiers; ministers without honor and without faith; public plunderers of all kinds, in short, an odious, cruel and bloody junto had prepared their ruin! Oh! How happy I shall then esteem myself! But I shall never enjoy either tranquility or satisfaction, until the moment when I shall have carried into the minds of that most amiable and most loving nation, that degree of conviction, which will restore and ensure to me for ever the hearts of all my dear Frenchmen.

Let us dissipate our alarms and our fears; let us strengthen, by fresh mutual assurances of reciprocal tenderness, the bands that unite us to each other; let us render them indissoluble; let all the unfortunate apply to me with unbounded confidence!—they will find my heart ever open: I will pour into theirs, every consolation which beloved children have a right to expect from a tender and affectionate mother whom they love: I will be eager to give them all the assistance in my power;—I will be their patroness and their support;—I will love to weep and grieve with those that grieve and weep; I will find an infinite sweetness in wiping off their tears, and I will place my happiness in drying up the source of them. Placed on the throne of France, my ambition still prompts another fond wish, which will fully satisfy my heart: it is, that all Frenchmen may consider me as their best friend.

A wise and economical minister is restored to us: the restorer of affairs is coming; perhaps he hears me at this moment: our misfortunes are then going to vanish: we may rely on his zeal and care, as well as on the love of our King for his people.

EUROPEAN ACCOUNTS, BY THE LAST ARRIVALS.

VIENNA, JULY 8.

An Austrian officer, who arrived here the 3d instant, in quality of a courier from Semlin, brings the important news that the Russian fleet, under Admiral Wainowich, had attacked and completely defeated the first division of the Turkish fleet, near Bessarabia. The division had under its convoy some transports with provisions for the Grand Vizier's army, which are captured by the Russians. After destroying and dispersing the Turkish ships, the conquerors made a descent upon the coast, and reduced Kalat and Kectaga to ashes by fire.—This victory is the more important, as it will tend to occasion a scarcity of provisions in the Ottoman army.

News of the above event has caused great consternation in Constantinople, where the guards are doubled, and cannon drawn upon the banks of the Canal to resist the approach of the Russians.