

# Gazette of the United States.

[No. LXXVII.]

W E D N E S D A Y JANUARY 6, 1790.

[Published on Wednesday and Saturday.]

## THE TABLET.

No. LXXVII.

"An ignorant people cannot long preserve freedom."

HOW then are savages free? They are so by nature. The liberty of a savage, and that of a civilized man are essentially different. Civil liberty implies both restraint and protection; but a savage is neither protected nor restrained. Where there is no government at all, men are literally free; but from a want of law, they cannot enjoy their freedom. Where there is a despotic government, the people, though they are politically slaves, are not in a worse condition, than savages who remain as free as nature formed them.

There cannot, strictly speaking, be any rational freedom, without fixed laws. There can be no such laws, where there is no civilization. As an ignorant people cannot be called civilized, they will not have the protection of law, and therefore should not be deemed free.

In tracing the decline of States, we are presented with a melancholly picture of human weakness. The splendor and pageantry of courts, the opulence and artifice of a few individuals, in an arbitrary government, dazzle the ignorant multitude, and create a glare of civilization, while the mass of the people are too unenlightened to be called civilized. No nation deserves such an appellation, where knowledge and property are confined to a few hands; any more than that deserves to be called a learned nation, in which a few individuals have made eminent attainments in science. The prevailing cast of character, among the people at large, is what should constitute the national character.

As an ignorant people must either be slaves or barbarians, we conclude that a well-informed people can be neither. The most conspicuous advantage of diffusive knowledge through the community is, that it puts the citizens on their guard against the blunders of the weak, and the intrigues of the artful. It must be owned, that ambition and avarice prevail in an enlightened society, as well as in a barbarous one. But where the people have so much knowledge that they can fairly estimate characters and measures, they will not easily be duped by false professions, nor intimidated by bold menaces. They will bear what ought to be borne, notwithstanding clamorous men may try to blow up sedition; and such people likewise will resist what ought to be resisted, notwithstanding arbitrary rulers may charge them with rebellion. The public opinion will be just and respectable. It will controul, not so much the execution, as the formation of the laws.

If the people of any country are generally uninformed, they cannot act in concert. They will judge differently of men and measures, and there will be no method of producing a union of sentiment. A bitter spirit of party will inevitably attend such a situation, and public liberty will expire in the rage of faction. This disaster can never happen in a community where there is general information. The attempts of turbulent, or intriguing men will be comprehended, and their views defeated, before any dangerous effects are produced.

## EUROPE.

VIENNA, October 8.

AN officer, dispatched by Field Marshal Prince Potemkin, on the 16th of Sept. has brought intelligence to the Russian Ambassador here, that the vanguard of the army commanded by Lieut. Gen. Prince of Anhalt-Bernburg, had attacked and entirely defeated a body of Turkish Caucasians a short distance from Bender. The Turks were under the command of Hassan Pacha, who commanded as Seraskier near Rahaja-Mohisso, in the last campaign. The Pacha, with several officers of distinction, and upwards of 100 men, were made prisoners, and about 700 left dead on the field. The enemy's camp, and three pieces of cannon fell into the hands of the victors.

The same officer also brought a confirmation of the news of the victory obtained by Prince Repnin, a few days before, near Todak, in Bessarabia, over Gazze, Hassan Pacha, late High Admiral, and now Seraskier, who was attacked and defeated in such a manner as to be obliged to abandon his camp, with his cannon, to the conquerors, and to retreat, with the rest of his troops, towards Ismail.

A courier who returned some days ago from the army of Marshal de Saxe-Cobourg, brought the news of the Russians having taken the port of Akierman on the Black Sea, and made 1500 prisoners there.

## FRANCE.

PARIS, Oct. 23.

### MR. NECKER'S STATUE.

ON its being known, that this statue was ordered by the city of Paris, the Sculptor to the King, sent the following letter

To the ASSEMBLY of the REPRESENTATIVES of the Town of PARIS.

GENTLEMEN,

"YOU add to all that you have done for the happiness and glory of your country, in decreeing a Bust to the most deserving Minister of France. You have ordained, that this bust shall be placed where you are daily and nightly occupied in attempting to promote the happiness of your fellow-citizens. Permit an artist, full of respect and gratitude for your patriotic virtues, to claim the honor of assisting you by making the bust of M. NECKER. M. Houdon has already had the honor of making those of WASHINGTON and of that young HERO, the friend of WASHINGTON, destined to be the defender of liberty in the two worlds. M. Houdon demands only a piece of marble; and he shall feel sufficiently recompensed if the Commons permit him to dedicate his poor talents to the celebration of a great man, and of those who have acquitted their duty to the public, in decreeing M. NECKER an honor, which no Minister, before him, ever received from the town of Paris.

(Signed) M. HOUDON."

This address has been successful, and the wishes of M. Houdon are accomplished.

### PATRIOTIC DONATIONS.

List of the names of those who sent the greatest quantity of silver to the French Mint.

	* Marks.
The King, in gold	230 3
Ditto, in silver,	9442 2
The Queen, ditto,	3607 3
Monsieur, ditto,	2401 0
The King's Aunt, ditto,	1334 7
Madame, ditto,	1315 2
The Queen, a second time, ditto	1445 5
Count Montmorin, ditto,	1236 7
Duchis, a Notary, ditto,	610 7
Marshal de Contades, ditto,	522 2
Vandenyver, a Banker, ditto,	546 1
Duke de Noailles, ditto,	545 6
Count de la Luzerne, ditto,	528 4
Marquis de la Taluro, ditto,	477 3
Prince de Beauveau, ditto,	469 1
M. Necker, ditto,	448 5
Count d'Estaing, ditto,	441 2
Marquis de la Fayette, ditto,	418 2
Count de St. Priest, ditto,	407 4
Mole, a President, ditto,	385 2
Keeper of the Seals, ditto,	376 1
De Parsoal, ditto,	296 5
Marshal de Segur,	258 2
Countess de Maurepas, ditto,	143 7

\* The value of a Mark, in silver, is about 9 dollars.

In times of public distress, sumptuary laws were imposed in Rome, and even the fair sex were prohibited from wearing costly ornaments. A Censor was always appointed at such times, who was invested with the highest restraining authority. The elder Cato strove to restrain the luxury of the times, but corruption and an influx of foreign wealth and plunder, in a great measure prevented his endeavors. When the State was in distress, all ranks and denominations of people exerted their utmost endeavors to relieve it, by public subscriptions, and giving in their jewels, plate and rings to the treasury, as the French are doing at present. The distress of that republic arose not from debt, the funded system not being then practised, but from the calamities of war, as when the city was taken by the Gauls, or during the war with the Carthaginians, when Hannibal commanded. The Emperors, however, lavished their public treasures, which the Consuls dared not to do, and then the coffers were filled with confiscations and wanton cruelties.

SUNDAY, Oct. 26.

If we may judge from the quiet of the capital, the Martial Law has already had so good an effect, as not only to have dispersed the large bands of rioters, but to make people a little more cautious in giving their opinions publicly, and fomenting disturbances.

The King and Queen with great tenderness, sent the Duke de Liancourt to condole with the poor widow of the Baker, and offer her a present of 6000 livres, to enable her to carry on her business, and that if this sum was not sufficient, she should have more.

Their majesties remain at the Thuilleries, as before, they stir out but little, the King now and

then takes a walk in the Gardens but the Queen is never seen out of the Palace.

The last letters from Stockholm bring an account of an action having happened at Avolax, in Finland, on the 9th ult. between the corps under general Stodingk, and a body of Russians. In the first onset the Russians made themselves masters of the two batteries belonging to the Swedes; but they afterwards not only retook them but drove the Russians off, who lost 100 in killed, 40 wounded and prisoners; among the latter, are 5 officers. The Swedes lost 13 killed and wounded; amongst the latter are two captains. One subaltern officer, and two of their artillery were taken prisoners.

The National Assembly of France have resolved, in opposition to the motion of M. de Mirabeau, that no member of the National Assembly shall hold any place in the administration, during the present session.

### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

OCTOBER 2.

The archbishop of Aix made an offer to the nation, in the name of the clergy, of the greatest supply that ever was voted at one time, by any body of men to any state, on condition that the clergy should not be dispossessed of the church lands. He offered to raise on the security of the church lands a supply of thirteen million sterling, which the clergy were willing to sacrifice to the public. Exclusive of this temporary aid, he offered to charge the church lands in perpetuity with the payment of two millions of livres per month, or one million sterling a year. This tempting offer was rejected by the National Assembly; and the resolution was passed, which, if carried into effect, will be the greatest blow ever given to the power of the clergy, whom it will render dependant upon the state, after having been so long a terror to it.

OCTOBER 6.

M. de Mirabeau, in a long speech on the scarcity of money, and the discredit of the public funds, endeavoured to point out the causes from which they had originated, and the mischievous consequences which they had produced. To the discredit of the public funds, the great reputation of M. Necker had very materially contributed; for the public seeing a Minister of such talents obliged to have recourse to the expedient of suspending payments at the Caisse d'Escompte, immediately concluded that all other resources were lost. Hence, every man, who got possession of specie, either hid it in his strong box, or sent it out of the country, to be invested in foreign funds. From the scarcity of specie, and the discredit of paper currency, had arisen, in a great measure, the scarcity of corn; because the farmer chose rather to keep his corn, than to sell for bills with which he could not pay his servants. As a means of alleviating this latter evil, he suggested an expedient, which, though distant, might nevertheless be highly beneficial. "We have," said he, "advanced considerable sums to rescue the Americans from slavery, and we have cemented the edifice of their liberty with our blood. They have grain in abundance; and are bound by every tie of justice, every sentiment of generosity, to pay in provisions the interest, and at least part of the principal, of their debt to us." He came next to speak of the want of a proper understanding between the Assembly and the King's Ministers. "In this last memorial," said he, "they renounce a responsibility, to which they give an absurd and disrespectful interpretation. They are not bound to answer for events; but they are bound to prove they have employed the means which the Assembly has entrusted to them. They complain that they have no regular and direct correspondence with us. Let us call them to sit among us. Hence their evasions, their mistakes, their equivocations, will be instantly detected. At present, we are obliged to confer with them by means of our committees. But out of the Assembly, a member is no more than a private individual, from whom it is easy for a minister to escape. In what place can they combat with less advantage, than in an assembly where all kind of knowledge are united? To this union of the legislative and executive powers, is the fate of the empire, perhaps, attached." He concluded by moving.

"That his Majesty be requested to send immediately, trusty and able persons to the United States to insist on the payment in corn of the capital and interest of the debt due to France.

"That the Committee of Finance shall prepare with all possible speed a plan for a National Bank, to give security to the public creditors, stability to national credit, and gradually diminish the public debt.

"That the King's Ministers be invited to sit