

and one half times the people to supply at home which the British have, yet is declared by Mr. Necker, in 1784, that they constantly ship a surplus of manufactures, amounting to one hundred and fifty millions of livres in value per annum. These great establishments of manufactures, founded much more than those of England or Holland on native productions, are the work of Colbert, whom "THE FARMER" holds in so little estimation. Had the Minister adopted the leading idea in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, that manufactures are principally to be desired and promoted, on account of the demand they occasion for the produce of the earth—France, which respects his memory, would have had reason to bless his name. All Colbert's errors arose from too strong a perception of half the truth.

The principal causes of those evils which existed in France before the late revolution were, the despotism, the extravagance, and the ambition of their government, the inordinate distinctions of men, contempt of the trading and manufacturing citizen, local imposts and other commercial errors, the immense wealth of a clergy, who could afford annual contributions to the government, from their possessions, of above 10,000,000 of livres, religious persecutions, a standing army of 212,000 men, the great expence of the marine, and, above all, a system of taxation and revenue, through the means of the Farmers-General, extortionate, and destructive of the landed interest and laborious poor.

Britain, which has tried the system of directing the internal industry and stock of her citizens, by acts of the legislature, in the most particular detail, has carried manufactures to a greater height than any other nation, and has as much freedom in her government as she had twenty or forty years ago. The evils of her present state are not of a nature to have been produced by the regulation of manufactures.—Their public debt has been created, by their efforts to settle the present family on the throne, by wars on the continent of Europe, by the desire of naval superiority, and, lastly, two-fifths of the whole by a seven years war with the United States, to maintain the supremacy of their Parliament. But could they discharge their public debt, establish, on an equal footing, all christian churches, and obtain an equal representation in Parliament, few evils could be manifested to have arisen from the interference of their legislature with the business and stock of their citizens.

"THE FARMER," tells us, that Americans are to be taught the lesson of freedom by the French nation, and to be saved from ruin by following their example. The people of the United States, it is presumed, will dispute with all other nations the honor of setting an illustrious example in the field of liberty, civil and religious. In the theory and practice of free government, they surely are the first great masters. Witness, *Fayette*, and *Rochambeau*, and *Biron* (*Lauzun*) and *Du Portail*, and *Noailles*, and the lamented *Gouvion*, first the pupils of America, and then the distinguished champions of French and European liberty. Witness, a truth, of which no man can doubt, that every citizen of France, who is not an aristocrat, would rejoice to see his country firmly and peaceably settled under such a government as that which we enjoy.

So much for the errors of the lessons, which "THE FARMER" has extracted from his observations on foreign countries. The subject of another paper will be, the mistakes he has made in regard to affairs at home.

A FREEMAN.

ON REPRESENTATION.

EXTRACT from the HERALD of VERMONT.

"IT were a confirmation devoutly to be wished, that the true principles of representation might be fairly discussed in public, instead of the interests and feelings of individuals. It is very easy to discern the drift of pretendedly patriotic declaimers. Their views are not public, but personal. I remember, when the Judges of the County Courts were first to be appointed in this State, a certain would-be Judge, in one of the counties, was asked, Who would be appointed Judges?—he readily nominated four (there were to be five at that time)—he could not name a man qualified for the fifth. Being asked, If he would not himself accept the appointment? he freely consented—but the people did not approve the nomination. This same man would, no doubt, have thought, that many of those who were nominated, were fit for Governors—Generals—any thing, which did not interfere with his present ambition."

EXTRACT.

"NOTHING ought to be more weighed than the nature of books recommended by public authority. So recommended, they soon form the character of the age. Uncertain indeed is the efficacy, limited indeed is the extent of a virtuous institution. But if education takes in *vice* as any part of its system, there is no doubt but that it will operate with abundant energy, and to an extent indefinite. The magistrate, who in favor of freedom thinks himself obliged to suffer all sorts of publications, is under a stricter duty than any other, well to consider what sort of writers he shall authorize; and shall recommend by the strongest of all sanctions, that is, by the public honors and rewards. He ought to be cautious how he recommends authors of mixed or ambiguous morality. He ought to be fearful of putting into the hands of youth writers indulgent to the peculiarities of their own complexion, lest they should teach the humours of the professor, rather than the principles of the science. He ought, above all, to be cautious in recommending any writer who has carried marks of a deranged understanding; for where there is no sound reason, there can be no real virtue; and madness is ever vicious and malignant."

Foreign Affairs.

BRUSSELS, July 12.

INTELLIGENCE has been received by this government, that early yesterday morning a body of Austrians, consisting of about 5000 men, attacked a French corps, commanded by M. Gouvion, who were encamped near a small town called Bersilly, directly in the line to Mons, and after destroying all the batteries, carried the camp and obliged the French to shelter themselves in Maubeuge. The loss on the side of the latter was said to be 200 men, and that of the Austrians only 30.

PARIS, June 13.

A letter from Rochelle, dated the 2d instant, states, that the preceding Monday was the day fixed on by the Protestants, the Jacobins, and the constitutional priests, to drive from that place all the priests who had not consented to take the oaths. In the morning two battalions of National Guards arrived, and every thing remained pretty quiet till three o'clock, when a mob assembled in the Rue des Augustins. By degrees the people became inflamed, and at length, armed with sabres, assailed the church. Those within side, endeavoring to fly, were severely handled, and two men were trod to death. They afterwards went to the house of M. Trimoille, whom they would have killed, had it not been for the Mayor's interposition.

The Municipality formed a decree, by which it was ordered, that every priest who had not taken the oaths, should leave the department in three days, or to be driven from thence by public force.

PROCLAMATION.

By order of his Royal Highness the Duke de Saxe-Teschén, Generalissimo of the Austrian armies in the Low Countries, it is enjoined, that all those who have deserted from the said armies, and all those who have emigrated with a view to join the army of Bethune Charost, or any troops armed against the house of Austria—if found in uniforms, or dressed like citizens with arms in their hands, or among the enemy, will be treated as rebels and traitors to their country, and punished on the spot, without any other trial than that called *stand recht*, by the first regiment or corps by whom they shall be discovered.

By order, (Signed) PERENT, Ad. Gen.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, JUNE 13.

ACTION WITH THE AUSTRIANS. LETTER FROM LA FAYETTE TO THE MINISTER AT WAR. *Entrenched Camp at Maubeuge, June 11.* FOURTH YEAR OF LIBERTY.

"I NOW sit down, Sir, to send you an account of the affair near Maubeuge. The day before yesterday, our Light Troops had a skirmish with those of the Enemy, in which the latter lost three men, and a few of both sides were wounded.

"The Enemy attacked my advanced guard this morning, which they doubtless hoped to surprize; but M. Gouvion, who was informed of their intentions in good time, sent off the baggage to Maubeuge, and began a skirmish during his retreat, in which his infantry was continually covered with hedges, and the Enemy's columns suffered greatly from our Artillery, and particularly from four pieces d'Artillerie, a Cheval, under Captain Barrois.

"The 3d and 11th regiments of Chasseurs, and the 2d of Hussars, manœuvred most admirably; the latter cut up a detachment of Husars which advanced against it.

"A violent storm, that prevented us from hearing the signal guns, retarded our knowledge of the attack. The moment intelligence of it was received in our camp, a column of infantry under M. Ligneville, and another of cavalry, under M. Tracy, were conducted by M. Narbonne towards the enemy's left flank, while the reserve, led on by M. Mauberg, advanced to the succor of the advanced guard.

"I immediately ordered nine troops to advance, and the enemy,

after abandoning the field of battle to us, and also part of their killed and wounded, retreated to their former camp.

"We marched upwards of a league beyond the station formerly occupied by the advanced guard, which resumed its former posts.

"I should have felicitated myself upon the little success accruing from this attack, if it had not by a cruel fatality been the means of snatching from his country one of the best of citizens, from the army one of the most useful officers, and from myself a friend of no less than 15 years standing. I mean M. Gouvion, whose virtuous life was terminated by a shot from a cannon. He is bewailed by the soldiers, by all the army, and indeed by every body conscious of the value of pure patriotism, an unalterable faith, and the happy union of courage and abilities. I speak not of my personal chagrin on this occasion; my friends will pity me.

"The loss of two Lieutenant Colonels of the department of Cote d'Or, also call for my just regret; one was M. Cazotte, aged 75, who had seen 50 years of service; he was killed in the late affair, while assisting M. Gouvion to save a dismounted cannon.

"The remainder of our loss consists in 25 wounded; the number of killed is inconsiderable. The enemy has suffered much more considerably than us. We have made some prisoners, and I have received no account of any being taken on our side.

"This is the most exact relation that I am able to transmit you, previous to the receipt of official and authentic accounts.

(Signed) "LA FAYETTE. General of the Army."

The Assembly instantly ordered the committee of public instruction to bring in a report, in what manner the esteem and gratitude of the nation might be testified towards the memory of M. Gouvion.

DUNKIRK, June 16.

The little army which was encamped in this neighbourhood, consisting of 5000 men, composed nearly of an equal number of regular troops and national guards, under the command of Gen. Carl, and General Mouron second, marched this morning on the road towards Lisle, attended by a train of artillery, for the declared purpose of joining the Grand Army under the command of Gen'ls Luckner and La Fayette.

The Citizens of Dunkirk had been previously summoned, and ordered to furnish all their horses for the use of the artillery and baggage waggons, which with alacrity was accordingly done: Ample restitution however will be made by the Nation, to every individual who sustains any loss or damage by the accommodation.

Much cannot be said in favor of the discipline of the Troops, or their military aspect; but they declare that their deficiencies in these respects shall be made up by personal valor.

It was apprehended, that the army of Dunkirk was destined for the capture of Ostend; but such an attempt would have only proved the want of information, or a frivolous gasconade, as half a dozen men, with a single cannon, would obtain the surrender of that town: all the military stores and other property lately there, belonging to the Austrian government, having been removed, and the place consigned to whatever military force might chuse to attack it. No opposition, therefore, would be attempted, farther than shutting the gates, and opening them again, with a surrender of the keys, on their being demanded.

The port is now free to traders of every nation, and the property of the merchants and individuals is and will be held sacred. The fact is, the French do not think that place worth taking, which the Austrians do not think worth defending.

The maritime commerce of each country will meet with equal protection—Some French frigates and ships of war are stationed off Ostend, and other ships of force are cruising in the Roads, to prevent piratical depredations, rather than from any apprehensions of national hostilities by sea.

LONDON, June 19.

A gentleman who arrived in town yesterday afternoon from Ostend, mentions, that the Austrian army, to the amount of 17,000 men, under the command of General Beaulieu, had marched from Tournay on Thursday last, and General Luckner's army was known to be in motion at the same time; that a violent cannonade was heard at Ostend on Friday; and that just on the departure of the packet, the Gressier had received an express from the Governor of Mons, with an account of the Austrians having taken fourteen pieces of cannon and two howitzers in this action. The particulars of which were hourly expected.

The Polish army is encamped in several divisions upon the frontiers, which the king was expected to visit about the beginning of this month. The head quarters of Prince Poniatowski, his Majesty's nephew, are near Winicka; General Wieloberski is posted with 5000 men near Tulczyn; and General Koscinko protects the road towards Kiovic.

The Russian army has entered the territory of the Republic in several columns, each of which is accompanied by some of the discontented Noblesse. Upon their first entrance, a detachment of about 800 men fell upon one of the Polish advanced posts near Tolozya, consisting only of 80 men, who, after a vigorous defence, rejoined their main body, carrying off their dead and wounded. The following is a letter from the head quarters of Prince Poniatowski.

MAY 24.

"We have just received advice from Lieut. Col. Gaachowski, that the enemy's Cossaks have been repulsed by our Patroles, near Czerniejowic, and pursued as far as Serbow, where was found a large body of Russian infantry, and 12 cannon. Upon perceiving this superiority, our troops retired in good order, but were obliged to abandon to a thousand Cossaks, who pursued them, a quantity of ammunition, which they had taken from the enemy."

The Court of Vienna is said at length to have granted permission to the French Emigrants to embody themselves against their country, and to have advanced them a sum of money for that purpose, on condition of submitting their military operations to the direction of the Austrian Commander in Chief.

During the march of La Fayette's army, two of the private soldiers attempted to excite a mutiny, by crying out that they were betrayed, and requiring to know whither they were marching. They were instantly seized, tried by a drum-head Court-Martial, condemned, and executed in the sight of the army.

There have been frequent skirmishes between the Cossaks and the Polish National cavalry; but the Russian forces have not advanced on either side, more than a league into the territory of the Republic. The Polish army was expected to have its complete number, an hundred thousand men on the 30th of May.

The King of Prussia has a serious dispute with the circle of Franconia, who not only persist in their neutrality towards France, but will only permit the passage of two regiments of Prussian hussars through their dominions.

JUNE 21.

The Hungarian Nation have offered to the King twenty five millions of florins, to contribute to the expences of the war declared by France.

The Duke of Brunswick, who is Commander in Chief of the Prussian army, is to go to Coblentz, where every thing is prepared for his reception, at the latest on the 2d of July. The combined armies, it is expected, will be ready to act by the end of that month.

Monday se'nnight a violent hurricane happened at Birmingham (similar to one which happened at the same place this time two years) which blew across Packington, Great Park, and tore up 25 elms, some of them 50 feet high, and in the trunk nearly two feet in diameter, besides carrying away large branches from oak and other trees.