

# Gazette of the United States.

A NATIONAL PAPER, PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS AND SATURDAYS BY JOHN FENNO, No. 34, NORTH FIFTH-STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

[No. 61 of Vol. IV.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1792.

[Whole No. 583.]

FOR THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FLENOY.

**J**EALOUSY is a republican virtue—who denies it? Therefore I love virtue when I suspect the monarchy-men, who write for your paper in recommendation of public schools. There is a snake in the grass. It is in print and for that reason I believe it, as my good grandmother did before me, that the spirit of true liberty is obscured in the eastern states. The proof is not only in print, but there are many other circumstances which corroborate it. The people of those states are very federal—they voted unanimously for Mr. Adams, and they appear ready and willing, if required, to carry the laws of Congress into effect. If these are the effects of public schools, if such an attachment to public order and to the security of property springs from giving knowledge, I am against all such smooth school projects. Reason condemns them, and so does experience—could you raise a learned mob against the excise—or would your pen and ink-ploughmen combine to oppose the laws of Congress. No, Mr. Printer, the influence of schools is fatal to such noble efforts of liberty against power. The mind spends all its energies in thinking, and the man becomes a poor spiritless government-ridden creature. Learning nurses aristocracy. It makes a distinction of ranks that no bill of rights can prevent, nor can any force abolish. We have already aristocrats enough, & public schools would make more. This is against liberty. Our newspaper writers would find their odes and essays in defence of liberty of no effect. Giving school learning to our children will baffle the labors of all these virtuous writers against government, and no future Mirabeau will persuade them that the wearing silk stockings or hair powder by our rulers, is a forerunner of monarchy and aristocracy, and that liberty will be lost if we do not say *Thou* and *Thou* to the President, Vice-President and heads of departments.—In short, ignorance gives suck to faction and anarchy: Why, by setting up public schools, will you barbarously destroy the mother and her children? WAT TYLER.

## Foreign Affairs.

FRANCE.  
NATIONAL CONVENTION,  
OCTOBER 6.

LISLE, Oct. 3.

Letter from Gen. Custine to Gen. Biron.

Head-Quarter, General, at Spire, September 30, &c.

My dear General,

You know, that, agreeable to the plan you adopted, I was to attack Spire, in which there were 4000 Austrians, or troops of Mayence, and magazines said to be of some consequence. I wished to execute this plan as soon as the army I command was organized; but being prevented by bad weather, I took advantage of the first moment it was possible for me to march to collect my army at Landau. The roads, however, being spoilt by the rains, rendered my march very fatiguing, especially that of the body which I conducted, and which was destined to cut off the retreat of the enemy towards Worms. Having set out at nine in the evening on the 29th, it was two o'clock next afternoon, when I arrived at the entrance of those roads, which led from Spire to Worms and Manheim. I found the Austrians drawn up in order of

battle, the gates having on the right an eminence, which is above the gate that looks towards Worms, a ravine before them, and their left extended, among some gardens surrounded with thick hedges.

I did not hesitate a moment to attack them in this position, and directing against their line a heavy fire of artillery, which protected my own line while forming, I marched at the same time upon their left four battalions, destined to take possession of the eminence which commanded them. They soon determined to retreat within the walls of the town.—Having tried for a moment to force the gate by my cannon, I preferred, when I saw the ardor with which the troops were animated, the making an attempt to cut them down with their bayonets. Having proposed this method,

the gate being demolished, and then that of the inner wall, the Austrians were repulsed in every quarter; but taking shelter in houses, in which they formed port-holes, when our troops were engaged in the streets, the enemy commenced a most terrible fire on them. As I, however, had taken the precaution to place at the heads of the columns some howitzers and eight pounders, I was enabled to rally my troops, who were at first a little intimidated; and soon after the Austrians thought of nothing but retreating.

Colonel Houchard, who had been prevented by a great inundation from approaching the banks of the Rhine, has, however, been able to execute a commission I gave him with the regiment which he commands, and he has taken 400 prisoners. I resolved to pursue the enemy in their retreat, and having come up with them at the Rhine, they laid down their arms.—When in Spire they amounted to more than 4000 men. Several colours, standard, cannon, howitzers, and above 3000 prisoners have been taken in this expedition.—The Austrians lost, besides, a great number killed. The magazines, which we found here are immense.

I cannot at present give you any details respecting them. I must conclude my letter, for I am ready to drop down with hunger and fatigue, having been twenty-two hours on horseback, and the troops as long under arms.

I cannot conclude this dispatch, with commending the firmness of the soldiers, the patience with which they supported the fatigues of so terrible a march, the discipline they observed, and the bravery they displayed. I am extremely happy in having this day seen the cause of liberty triumphant. It adds to my pleasure that I have been able to moderate and check the fury of the soldiers. I have the satisfaction of saying that in a town, taken by storm, and where a firing took place in all the streets a single action has not been committed which I need to blush at.

[Loud applauses.]

It gives me great happiness, my dear General, after having found an opportunity of inspiring my troops with confidence, after having carried away the magazines of the enemy, and destroyed their forces, to be able to join you, in order to save the departments of the Rhine. I cannot sufficiently praise the manner in which Marshal Newingar has conducted himself. He executed the dispositions of the infantry during that day, with a coolness and tranquillity which must always insure great success.

(Signed) CUSTINE.

P. S. I have the honor of trans-

mitting to you immediately an account of the stores and ammunition which we have taken.

Philip Equality—I can certify the truth of this, because I have in my hand a copy of it attested by Gen. Biron.

Letter from the Minister of War.

PARIS, Oct. 10, 1792.

Citizen President—The Convention will, doubtless, with pleasure see, by copies of and extracts from, the letters of Gen. Custine, details of his useful and glorious expedition; but you will learn, not without pain, that the good conduct of the troops, has been stained for a moment by emillaries mixed among the brave defenders of their country, who have attempted, with a momentary success, to introduce among them a system of plunder and irregularity, which appears to be the only resource, or rather the last conspiracy of the enemies of liberty and equality—I hope the convention will approve the severe but necessary conduct of General Custine.—The severity which he has employed he thought necessary for the glory of the French republic.

Gen. Dumourier informs me by letter of some military operations, and that to-morrow he means to send a sufficient force to drive the enemy from the department of the North.

(Signed) LEBRUN.

Letter from Gen. Custine to Gen. Biron.

Spire, Oct. 2.

I promised you some details, and I should have sooner discharged my promise had not the disorders which prevailed here yesterday and this morning prevented me.—This unhappy place was on the point of being plundered, and to prevent this, as well as the like events in future, I was obliged to make an example of some of my men, and to employ all the rigour of military law. You will soon see two thousand nine hundred prisoners arrive. I am going to send immediately to the national convention five standards. Near 400 of the enemy were drowned in attempting to cross the Rhine. Three pieces of cannon were also lost, as also two standards belonging to the division of the dragoons of Tuscany. Eight hundred men were killed: their wounds are dreadful, as they were made by our cannon shot fired from a very short distance. A bank of earth permitted us to place our batteries in such a manner as perfectly to command the enemies line, while ours was sheltered from their cannon. Our batteries were erected under the shelter of this natural parapet, and the column destined to support them was luckily covered by a rising ground. We lost, in consequence, very few men; we had 20 killed, and 30 wounded, among whom were two officers. With regard to the magazines, I have not yet been able to learn the state of them. Four hundred waggons have set out to-day for Landau, and it does not yet appear that the magazines are much diminished.

(Signed) CUSTINE.

The minister of Justice sent to the convention the seals of the state in gold, with the Maces which were carried by the Mace bearers of the Chancery.

The convention decreed, "That these articles, as well as the Sceptre and the Crown of the ci-devant King, and other insignia of the like kind, should be broken and carried to the mint."

Letter from the Minister at War.

Paris, Oct. 6.

Citizen President—I have received no intelligence this morn-

ing either from Gen. Dumourier or from the city of Lisle.

General Kellerman informs me that he continues to pursue the enemy. He gives an account, at the same time, of the measures he has concerted with Gen. Dumourier, to secure more and more the triumph of the armies of the republic. News was eagerly expected from Gen. Anselm, charged with one of those expeditions so well planned under the ministry of the patriotic Servan.—The success of it has been equal to those in Savoy and at Spire. I transmit to the convention a copy of the dispatches which I have received: they contain an account of the capture of Nice and Montalban. (Signed) LEBRUN.

Minister at War per interim.  
Letter from General Anselm.

September 20, &c.

Citizen, being uncertain in what part of Savoy Citizen Montequiou may be at present, I think it my duty to give you immediately an account, that on the 23rd ult. being employed in making preparations for passing the Var, I received different advices, stating, that the troops of the King of Sardinia were making dispositions to retire towards Soavello on the road to Coni.

I immediately ordered all the grenadiers of the army, supported by two brigades, to make ready for crossing the Var.

I placed myself at the head of this column, with which I passed the river, and advancing with rapidity to the city of Nice, entered it without resistance. After establishing my military posts, my first care was to send a body of troops to attack the fortress of Montalban. I summoned the Governor, & threatened him with an escalade, for which I was making preparations. He then surrendered prisoner of war, with the whole garrison, consisting of Swiss troops. I found the artillery in excellent condition.

Our grenadiers at present occupy this post, which is of the greatest importance, as it will enable me to maintain my position in Nice, should I be attacked by a very superior force, and as it gives me very great advantages to get possession of the castle of Ville-Franche, which I hope to take to-morrow in some way or other: it is defended by five pieces of cannon.

I have found between the Var and Nice a great number of cannon, several of which have been spiked up in such haste, that I think it will be easy to make them soon fit for use. The enemy had not time to carry away the ammunition belonging to these guns. I am already provided with a great number of muskets, and with ammunition and provision of every kind.

I must bestow the highest praises on the zeal shewn by the troops whom I have not yet been able to reinforce with other brigades, as I wished to get possession of Nice as soon as possible.

I am assured that the enemy amount to 8,000 regular troops, four regiments of which are Swiss, besides 12,000 militia, all well armed, I am in pursuit of them, but they climb the high mountains.

I think I shall to-morrow plant the Tree of Liberty in the town of Nice, and in the fortresses of Montalban: and the day after to-morrow in the town and fortresses of Ville-Franche. I cannot comprehend the reasons which determined the troops of the King of Sardinia to abandon with so much timidity such important posts, and such great means of defence. It must have been thro' a panic terror of which I shall take advantage. This prevents me from