

entering into farther details at present, but this deficiency I shall afterwards supply.

(Signed) "ANSELME."

A deputation of the section of Paris, called Graviilliers requested that the convention would speedily pass Sentence on the KING and complained at the same time of several decrees of the convention. "The men of the 10th of August, said they, will never suffer those in whom they have placed their confidence, to sit down for a moment the sovereignty of the people. Courage in a free people is a virtue, and we will never depart from this principle—that it is just to obey the laws, it is also just to resist despots, under whatever mask they may conceal themselves—We are of opinion that our interests, requires that we should make our elections by open vote."

"Citizens, the right of petitioning is a sacred right; but those who present themselves at the bar to employ it ought not to forget that respect which they owe to the representatives of the people.—I do not mean to the people of Paris, but to the people of all France. The National Convention acknowledge only one people, one sovereign—that is, the union of the citizens of the whole republic. The Representatives will not be compelled by threats to violate or discharge their duty. They know it, and they will render themselves worthy of that confidence with which the French republic has invested them. They have nothing to fear, and they fear nothing from the people of Paris; and what you said to assure them was perfectly useless. They entertain neither fear nor suspicion. In short, the National Convention will always hear with pleasure the language of liberty, but it will never suffer that of licentiousness. It will take your petition into consideration, and admit twenty of you to the honors of the sitting."

The convention ordered this answer to be printed.

The section of Graviilliers protested the submission to the law, but requested that the section for the future should be authorized to choose by open vote. They were of opinion that no fear or preponderance of party could influence elections of that kind.

A great number of other petitioners were admitted on subjects of a private nature, and their petitions referred to the proper committees.

MONDAY, October 8.

The following letter from the commissioner sent to the army of Dumourier, was read.

"Sainte Menchould, Oct. 7.

"Citizens, the enemy continue their retreat towards Stenay, and notwithstanding the rapidity of their march, our troops incessantly harass them. We take great numbers of them prisoners every day; and if they had not taken the precaution to cause their baggage to file off three days beforehand, they would have saved none of it.

"We know that the misunderstanding between the King of Prussia, the emigrants and the Austrians, is carried to the utmost extreme.—The King of Prussia, when he began his retreat, sent for the cidevant Monsieur, and General Goussier, and addressed them as follows:—"You have both deceived me; I will still extricate you from the bad situation in which you are, but you will remember me."

Gen. Bournonville's letter to General Dumourier, dated March, October 5. The material parts are, "The weather is very bad; I have not been able to make use of my infantry; they were 38 hours in going two leagues; they had no bread to eat these two days; we have taken 30 horses from the enemy, two prisoners, and 121 of their sick."

I have declined burdening myself with so great a plague; and have sent them to their homes; if I had hearkened to the wish of my volunteers, we should have buried them in the mud; if this disorder continues raging, the enemy will not get back either horses, men, or cannon; they are much in want of the former for their artillery.

"The King of Prussia and Monsieur passed this way; the former yesterday, and the latter the day before, appearing to be very much frightened. However, the retreat of the Prussians is conducted with the greatest order; the van-guard passed Tiern at twelve o'clock last night, and Grand Pre at two o'clock with sixty carriages full of their sick, and I let them carry the plague farther on—but am in readiness expecting you.

BOURNONVILLE."

TUESDAY, October 9.

A debate arose on the decree respecting the emigrants; and it was finally decreed, that such of them as are taken with arms in their hands shall be executed within 24 hours after being first proved to be emigrants before a military commission of five persons, to be appointed by the etar major of the army; foreigners who have quitted the service of France since the 14th of July 1789, and joined the emigrants, or the enemy, to be treated in the same manner; the powers at war to be responsible for all violations of the law of nations by any reprisals made by the emigrants.

Extract of a letter from General Custine to General Biron.

"SPIRE, Oct. 5.

"Dear General, The letter I received from you yesterday and the news it contains, caused me to reflect deeply on our situation, and the means we have of doing the most useful service to the public weal. The following is the result:

"M. Derbach, since the 2d inst. has received orders to come and cover Worms and Mayence, with a body of 12,000 men. He will arrive rather late for the former, as I am possession of it. M. Noveigneur, with a detachment, 4,600 entered it. He found 1,800

rents, area magazine of 3,200 load of corn and straw which I directed to be moved immediately and sent to Landau I have demanded a contribution of 1,200,000 liv. viz 200,000 of the mit noble Chapter, 400,000 of the Bishops, and 600,000 of the magistrates.— This operation will be finished before the arrival of the Count Derbach, and I shall also have evacuated Spire.

(Signed) CUSTINE."

OCTOBER 10.

A letter was read from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which, after relating the proceedings between the French Resident and the Council, he announces that he withdrew from Geneva on the 4th inst. without taking leave; but remitting to the Council the note of which he sent a copy to the assembly.

"In this state of things (says the minister) and considering how important it is to prevent even yet if possible a rupture that might bring on a war with the Helvetic Body, the Executive Council have thought it their duty to authorize General Montesquieu not to employ force, to oblige the troops of Zurich and Berne to quit the territories of Geneva, but to expose to them the danger of persisting in a resolution, which circumstances do not make necessary, and which is not authorized by any treaty."

The note of the Minister chiefly has for its object, to demand of the Genevese the punishment of the magistrates, who have, by their manoeuvre provoked the requisition made to the cantons of Zurich, and Berne for troops.

The Minister at War communicated the following extract of a letter from General Dumourier to the Minister at War:

Vouxiers, Oct. 9.

"Patriot Minister,

"I have just divided into two parts the army under my command in the Ardennes. The brave Kellerman, my companion in arms, and my intimate friend (notwithstanding that has been said, done, and written, to excite animosity between us) undertakes to assure from our territory the enemies who I assure you will never enter France again by this terrible frontier, Consternation and ruin contribute to ruin the army of the enemy, and Kellerman will easily accomplish their destruction. The King of Prussia is departed for Berlin, where his army follows him. He has had a shocking conversation with the two cidevant Princes of France. He reproached them with having deceived him: he told them that they had exposed him to be ill received in his own kingdom, and that he would remember it to them all his life. After this conversation, the truth of which I guarantee to you, the two French princes went to the castle of Vouxiers, from which I now write to you.

"We took such quantities of equipage as to enrich our soldiers. Yesterday the carriage of Monsieur was brought in. We avoid taking the waggons loaded with sick, to save our army from contagion. In short, I answer, particularly after the diversion made at Spire, and after that which I have planned with Kellerman, that the Germans will not again penetrate into France: I should be wanting to my duty of a General, if I lost ten days in marching at the head or the tail of the columns, and if I did not on the contrary, employ them in arranging with the council all the operations which may give prosperity to our military affairs.

"DUMOURIER."

Letter from General Dumourier to the President of the Convention.

"Citizen President,

"The honour of the French nation has been sullied by two battalions of the Federates of Paris. The Minister of War will give you account of the measures which I have taken to punish the guilty. Our liberty would be soon lost, if such acts were not suppressed—I shall deliver up to you the disturbers unarmed—do you appoint judges for them.

"DUMOURIER."

The conduct of these two battalions Maaconseil and Republican, was explained in a letter from General Chazot, commanding at Rhetel. Four Prussian deserters had been taken prisoners, who, according to the report of the municipality, were desirous of entering into the service of the Republic. These two battalions fell upon them in the most inhuman manner, and notwithstanding the tears and supplications of their own General, like ruffians and butchers, cut them in pieces. The orders of General Dumourier were, that these two battalions should be surrounded by the army, and forced to lay down their arms, standards and uniforms. That they should be forced to deliver up the criminals who committed the inhuman massacre at Rhetel, who, under an escort of 100 men, should conduct them to Paris, and deliver them up to the National Convention. That the rest of the battalions should be broken—their arms and habits laid up in the military store, and their colours sent back to their districts, to be by them confided to men more worthy to bear them. This measure was highly applauded by the Convention.

A letter from General Custine was read, stating, that he had imposed upon the Canons and Bishop of Spire, who were great friends to the Emigrants, a contribution of 450,000 livres.

German account of the taking of Spires.

Official account published by order of the Electoral Court of Mentz.

"Colonel de Winkelman, towards evening of the 29th of Sept. received advice of the approach of the enemy to the number of 30,000. The Austrian troops and those of Mentz, marched out from the city at eight o'clock at night, to defend the four gates, and remained under

arms until half after seven the next morning. Hearing then no account of the enemy, the garrison returned to the town, but scarcely had they retired, when the commandant of a patrolle of horse, who having been out reconnoitring, had lost three of his men, rode up on a full gallop, with intelligence that the enemy were not far distant. Our troops refusing then their former position without the walls, received about noon the French army, whom they found to amount to 17,000 men, by a discharge of their cannon. The cannonade was kept up with great spirit on both sides. The enemy's artillery was much more numerous; but as our troops were drawn up only two men deep, while the French advanced in columns, their loss must have been considerable. At three o'clock the garrison retired to the town through the different gates, and the firing was continued in the streets with so much vivacity, that the infantry of Mayence eight times repulsed the French cavalry. Notwithstanding this brave resistance, our troops were obliged to give way before the enemy, who were much superior in number, and to retire through the gate called Weifethor, towards the ford of Rheinhoufe, at about the distance of a league from Spires. The French pursued then thither with their whole forces, and they were then reduced to the necessity of asking leave to capitulate. After a delay of forty minutes, lieut. colonels Dietrich and Fechenbach; the former in the service of Austria, and the latter in that of the Elector of Mentz, agreed with M. Custine, the French general, that the garrison should remain prisoners of war; that the artillery, arms, horses and baggage should be given up to the enemy; that the officers should be suffered to retain their arms, horses and effects; and that the soldiers should not be stripped. After these stipulations were agreed to, the garrison was brought back to the town, where the soldiers laid down their arms close to the grand guard, and were afterwards lodged in the Cathedral, but the officers had permission to walk about.

"Next morning, October 1st, all the privates, reckoning from the first serjeant of each company, were conveyed to Landau, and a declaration was made to the officers assembled at the Hotel de Ville, that they would be set at liberty after they had taken an oath not to serve in the war against the French till an exchange of prisoners should take place—having acquiesced in this proposal, and sold their horses for ready money to the French, the commandant of Landau conducted them without any guard to the ford of Rheinhoufe, and permitted them to retire wherever they might think proper.

One of the Secretaries proclaimed the names of the members who are to compose the committee of constitution. These were Seyes, Thomas Paine, Petion, Brissot, Vergniaud, Genfonne, Barrere, Danton, Condorcet.—The Deputies were Barbaroux, Herault, Lanthenas, Jean Debry, Fauchet, Lavecomtrie.

Friday, October 12.

The President announced a letter from General Dumourier, in which he requested leave to come and present his respects to the National Convention. The Convention having immediately decreed that the General should be admitted, he appeared at the bar, accompanied by several of his staff-officers.

General Dumourier's Speech.

"Citizen-Legislators,

"LIBERTY is every where triumphant: Guided by Philosophy, it will overpread the universe, and it will establish itself on all thrones after having crushed despotism, and enlightened the people.

"The constitutional laws which you are about to frame, will form the basis of the happiness and fraternity of nations. This war will be the last, and tyrants and privileged orders, mistaken in their criminal calculations, will be the sole victims in this struggle of arbitrary power against reason. The army, which the confidence of the nation entrusted to my command, have deserved well of their country. Reduced, when I joined them on the 28th of August, to 17,000 men, and disorganized by traitors, whom punishment and shame every where pursue, they were neither intimidated by the number, discipline, threats, barbarity, nor first successes of 80,000 satellites of despotism. The defiles of the forest of Argon were the Thermopylae, where this handful of soldiers of Liberty made a respectable resistance, for 15 days, to that formidable army. More fortunate than the Spartans, we were supported by two armies, animated by the same spirit, whom we joined at the impregnable camp of St. Menchould. The enemy, in despair, wished to attempt an attack, which adds a new victory to the military career of my colleague and friend Kellerman.

"In the camp of St. Menchould the soldiers of Liberty displayed other military virtues, with-

out which courage even may be hurtful—confidence in their chief, obedience, patience and perseverance. That part of the republic conflicts of a dry soil, destitute of wood and water. The Germans will remember it, their impure blood will perhaps fertilize these barren plains which are now drenched with it. The season was uncommonly rainy and cold; our soldiers were badly clothed; were destitute of straw to lie upon; had no covering, and remained sometimes two days without bread, because the position of the enemy obliged our convoys to take a long circuit, by cross-roads, which are very bad at all seasons, and which were then spoiled by the long rains; for I must do justice to the perseverance, provisions and forage, was notwithstanding the obstacles of bad roads, wet weather, and the secret movements which I was obliged to conceal from them, supplied us with abundance as far as was possible; and I am happy in declaring, that we are indebted to their cars for the good health of the soldiers. [Applauses]. I never heard them murmur. Songs and joy would have made one take this formidable camp for one of those camps of pleasure, where the luxury of kings formerly embodied automata, for the amusement of their mistresses and children. The soldiers of Liberty were supported by the hope of conquest; their fatigues and sufferings have been rewarded. The enemy have sunk under famine, misery and disease. This formidable army, diminished one-half, are fled; the roads are strewn with the carcasses of horses, and dead bodies; Kellerman is in pursuit of them with more than 40,000 men, while I shall march with a like number, to the assistance of the department of the North, and of the unfortunate and respectable Belgians and Liegeois.

I have come to spend four days here, only for the purpose of setting, with the executive council, the plan of the winter campaign. I embrace this opportunity of presenting my respects to you. I shall not take any new path; I shall show myself worthy of commanding the soldiers of Liberty, and to support those laws which the sovereign people are going to enact for themselves, by you, their representatives." [Loud applauses.]

The President's Answer.

"Citizen-General,

"THE reception you have met with from the National Convention will express to you much better than I can their satisfaction with your conduct, and that of your colleagues, and the opinion they entertain of you. Continue to direct the courage and zeal of the army; continue to guide your soldiers, and brethren in arms in the path of honour and of victory; continue to serve your country with fidelity, and you will have new claims to the esteem and gratitude of the republic. The Convention invites you, as well as your brethren in arms, to the honour of the sitting."

The General was then introduced into the Hall, together with the officers who attended him, and deposited on the table, as did also lieutenant-general Morton, his military decorations.

La source—"I move that the Convention will request General Dumourier to give them some information respecting the letter of General Dillon."

President—"General, do you know any thing of a letter written by General Dillon to the Prince of Hesse Cassel; and do you know what was the intention of that General in writing it? The National Convention expects some information from you, as the Executive Council informed them that they hoped you would be able to satisfy them in this respect."

Dumourier—"I received a copy of that letter, but I considered it a mere bravado, and of very little importance, especially as Dillon, two days after, pursued the Hessians with the utmost vigour. I am of opinion, therefore, that it is not worth notice."

An Adjutant General of Dumourier's army presented to the Convention the first standard which the Emigrants had displayed, and which the soldiers of liberty had courageously taken from the enemy.

The Convention decreed, that this signal of rebellion, instead of being hung in the hall of trophies, should be put into the hands of the common executioner, to be publicly burnt.

After some other business of little importance, the sitting rose at 5 o'clock.

GERMAN ACCOUNTS.

The Leyden Gazette contains an account of the progress of the Prussian army on the 14th, 15th, & 16th of September, as published at Berlin.—This account, far from imitating the style of the Brussels Gazette, never mentions the French troops with contempt, expressly says—That in the various actions that took place on the 14th and 15th the Prussian troops were repulsed, and shews that altho' they always carried their point in the end, every inch of ground was warmly disputed. To this account is subjoined a letter from the army of General Clairfait, dated September 26th, written in the same style, which makes the loss of the Prussians, in carrying the height before the village of Walmy 500 men, and that of the French, attempting to defend it, 1200. The conclusion of it shews, that the disasters of the combined armies has not been exaggerated: "Since the 17th we have been under the open sky, without tents or baggage. The weather all the while has been dreadful—constant and excessive rains, tempestuous winds, and cold uncommonly severe for the season.—The armies on both sides have suffered severely; the latter season cannot be more unfavourable for the operations of the campaign. According to all the information we receive, the enemy is still more distressed than we. We are in the midst of Champagne Penillenc (the lousy) a country, poor in the extreme, unprovided of every thing, without water, without wood, almost a desert, and entirely abandoned by the native inhabitants. We must seek water more