

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE. NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Permanent Sitting—APRIL 16.

THE following letters were read, being sent to the Convention by Commissaries in the army.

Letter from the citizens Lequinio, Cochon & Bellegrade, to the Field Marshal, Prince de Cobourg.

“*Monsieur,*

“Dumourier has betrayed the French nation to which he owed his elevation: You cannot esteem a Traitor. Good faith prohibits you from giving him an asylum, and you ought not to have received the members of the Convention whom he delivered up to you. The French would have abhorred any one of your nation, who had committed such baseness; and would have restored to you those hostages, which the law of nations precluded them from receiving in such cases.

“We now transmit you a few copies of the decrees passed by the Convention on this occasion; and we also inclose the Proclamation which we have addressed to the army.

“A brave general who loves honor, ought to follow the conduct which justice commands; and we now frankly assure you, that the whole French nation will either perish or remain free.

(Signed) *Lequinio,  
Cochon,  
Bellegrade.”*

Letter from Prince Cobourg, Commander in Chief of the Imperial armies.

Head Quarters, Bouffu, April 9.  
“*Gentlemen,*

I did not look upon Gen. Dumourier as a traitor! He talked of nothing when he was with us, but of the happiness of his country: He rested his undertaking upon this respectable basis; it was upon this ground I entered into conversation with him, and upon this ground you ought to judge him. You differ in opinion with him, this is his only crime.

“His principles recalled him to that constitution, which was once your idol; he saw in it the happiness of France, and the peace of Europe; for these principles he does not deserve to be delivered up to ignominy and the death of a traitor. He had never any private intelligence with us, and we fought in such a manner, as to prove that we were no friends. In your proclamation you accuse him of having intended to deliver up his country; he never deviated from his first solemn declaration, and that of the other generals at our approach towards France, that they should never suffer any foreign power to interfere with the interior organization of your government, or that any parts of France should be alienated.

“As to the four commissioners from the Convention, their fate is in your hands. I appeal for all these objects, and for the violent, tyrannical, and furious relations of some of the members of your assembly, to those members who have really the love of their country at heart. May they find means to make the convulsions cease, which tear France to pieces, and shake to its foundation the rest of Europe; this is my wish as well as yours.

(Signed) PRINCE COBOURG.

Letter from Citizens Dubois, Dubais, and Briez, Representatives of the French people at Valenciennes, April 10, 1793, to General Prince de Saxe Cobourg, Commander in Chief of the Imperial Army.

“*General,*

The citizen deputies, to whom you addressed your yesterday's letter, are no longer at Valenciennes; we supply here their places, and we profess the same principles with them. We have the same duties to fulfil, the same oaths to keep, and we are possessed of the same powers, delegated from the National Representation of the Republic.

“General, we agree with you, that

to differ in opinion is no crime; for a crime, according to the law, is attached only to actions; and it is only for actions which are criminal and traitorous in the eyes of all nations, and even in yours, that Dumourier has rendered himself infamous and a traitor; whilst he might have covered himself with glory in usefully serving his country, and dying in its defence, if necessary.

It was certainly a great crime to pretend to oppose his own will to that of the nation, and to propose to them any government whatever. The will of a general of an army, in opposition to legal authorities, even if good, can be nothing but a violation of all principles, and a great crime against national sovereignty. But what did Gen. Dumourier wish for? The same that our most inveterate enemies now wish for, viz. To seduce our troops, to direct them against their country, to give us a new Tyrant, and to league themselves with our enemies, in order to accomplish these designs. What more could Dumourier have done? Has guilty La Fayette, whom he himself condemned to infamy, done any thing else? Has not he himself sworn fidelity to the Republic, and for this oath obtained the confidence of the French? You, general, reap the advantages of his perfidy, but you do not pardon him for the same. The constitution, which, you say, was once our idol, fell into ruins by the endeavors of those who wish for it now and did not wish for it at that time. The nation had made a trial, and in the experiment they were disgusted with it forever. The nation, and they had a right to do so, insisted upon a Republican Government, and swore to support it, or bury themselves in its ruins.

We know of no division amongst the members of the Convention. That assembly is one and indivisible—We know of no other members amongst them but what are guided by the love of their country. If there are sometimes disputes, if their fittings are sometimes tempestuous, no person has a right to interfere. We always agree in the main object of general interest, and we are all determined to live and to die Republicans.

Our four colleagues are under the safeguard of the sovereign justice and loyalty of our enemies. Their fate gives us no uneasiness. Besides, we have already prepared an answer to your address to the French of the 9th inst.—we send it to you, and beg you to read it with attention; you will find in it true principles, upon which nations ought to conduct themselves towards one another.

APRIL 18.

A letter from the commissioners at Valenciennes, was read. It stated, that Conde was still blockaded; that the enemy had summoned the town of Maubege, the garrison of which was resolved to defend it; and that an action had taken place the evening before, in which the enemy were repulsed. The commissioners added, that they expected an important action the day following.

The commissioners at Nantz informed the Convention by a letter, dated the 15th, that the patriots were continuing to repress the insurgents, and that their efforts were attended with great success.

The commissioners in the department of Levennee and des Deux Seves, informed the convention by a letter dated the 13th, that Cholet, Chenille, and St. Floren, were in the hands of the patriots; and that the rebels in the battle of the 11th, lost 800 men.

Deputies from La Gironde appeared at the bar, and stated that the committee of safety of Bourdeaux had arrested a courier with large packets of papers, addressed to some popular societies, and containing exhortations to them to proceed to Paris and massacre the greater part of the convention.

These papers were read by Fonfrede, and appeared to be some of Marat's productions, containing the denunciations of Collot against Ro-

land, an address to the Jacobins of Paris, and a variety of other papers, in which he excited the people to massacre, and exhorted them to drive certain members from the convention. Some letters of Marat were also read, in which it was said, after mentioning the Girondins, that the Marseillaise were in full march to Paris, to make the royalists lose the taste of bread. [At these words loud applauses proceeded from the galleries.]

The greater part of the convention, however, exclaimed against the galleries, and on motion by Doucler, it was decreed, that mention should be made in the minutes, of the applauses given by the galleries, to the proposal for murdering the members of the convention.

APRIL 20.

Several denunciations were made to the convention.

These denunciations gave rise to several motions, some demanding, that a discussion should be opened on the petition of Paris; and others, that the act of accusation against Marat, should be presented.

After a violent commotion, Gensouet said, “I am accused of ambition, I who caused a decree to be passed, that deputies cannot hold any office until six years after their being members of the legislature; I in my turn accuse my accusers of having filled every office with their relations, friends, or confidants; I move that commissioners be appointed to verify this fact.”—Decreed.

Gensouet resumed his speech, but was interrupted by some members, who demanded, that his correspondence with Dumourier should be printed.

I will produce it, said Gensouet; and in a little time I will do more than confound my calumniators. I will attack them in front. I previously declare, that I am the accuser of Roberfpierre. One of us two deserves to lose his head. Gensouet then recurred to the petition, and after some observations on its political consequences, concluded by moving, with Lafource, that the primary assemblies should be convoked.

After a long debate, the convention declared the petition signed by 35 sections and adopted by the council general of the commune of Paris, to be calumnious, and ordered copies of this decree to be transmitted to the departments.

The decree of accusation drawn up by the committee of legislation against Marat, was adopted.

The commissioners sent to Lavedee, announced a new defeat of the rebels, who have lost above a thousand men killed, among whom were a La Rochefoucault and his son.

A letter of Gen. Lamorriere was received from the commissioners at Lille, mentioning the return and good disposition of the troops from Breda and Gertruydenburg. The commissioners reported, from the information of a Prussian soldier, that Dumourier was guarded in flight, with irons on his legs and hands.

The commune of Paris, said Duperet, has just declared itself in a state of insurrection against the convention.

MADRID, March 31.

SIXTEEN ships of war are sailed from Ferrol, to cruise in the Mediterranean against the French; 10,000 volunteers have been raised on the frontiers.

The Declaration of War against France was made known yesterday in the different squares and the public parts of this capital.

BRUGES, April 19.

The Guards, who were expected to have made some stay in this city, received orders last night to march this day for Courtray, a town about eight leagues from this place, near the French frontiers. The 37th regiment marched yesterday to Ostend. The 14th and 53d are still here. The reason assigned for this precipitate march of the Guards, is to assist the Prussians in surrounding a considerable body of French troops, who are now near Courtray, on their march through the Imperial territories from Breda and Gertruydenburg, and to oblige them to lay down their arms. These troops, it may be recollected, were allowed to march from those garrisons, with their arms, cannon, military stores, baggage, and all the honours of war; which capitulation the Prince de Saxe Cobourg has declared will be no longer adhered to, in consequence of the French garrison of Conde having most inhumanly massacred one of his officers, who was sent with a trumpeter to the

garrison. Before introducing him into the town, they bound his eyes and then tore him to pieces. In consequence of this atrocious violation of their faith, the Austrian Generals have given orders, to stop all the baggage and military stores which were following them.

BRUSSELS, April 22.

On the 17th, General Clairfait resolved to attack the wood of Ruffines, where the French had posted themselves, for which purpose he sent a battalion of Hungarian infantry, one of the regiment of Ligne, and another of free corps of Michaelowitz, with some light horse and chaffeurs. The combat was long and obstinate and lasted seven hours, but at last the French, upon the point of being surrounded, after a long and bloody resistance, retreated in tolerable order to Lille. By all accounts, the loss of the enemy must have been very considerable. We had but three hundred killed and wounded.

The garrison of Lille made a vigorous sally to dislodge our advanced posts, which were within a short distance of that city, after our troops had taken post at Lannoy, Roubais, and Turcoin. On this occasion an action took place, in which some were killed on both sides.

April 26. This day the cavalry of the beautiful legion of Normandy, which the Emperor has taken into his pay, passed through our city.

April 27. Recruiting is carried on throughout all the country with the greatest success, and our Walloon regiments are to be made up to their full complement.

RATISBON, April 3.

In the Conclusion of the Empire of the 22d ult. when the war against France was declared, and the circulation of French assignats prohibited, it was further resolved,

“That all treaties of peace hitherto concluded between the Germanic Empire and France are to be declared null, yet without prejudicing the rights of every third.

“All written correspondence is to be narrowly examined, but the commercial connections with France are to be preserved till infringed by France herself.

“All the States and Vassals of the Empire are to renounce their Neutrality with France.

“All Frenchmen who cannot obtain a permission of residence from the magistrates of any part of the empire, are to be banished from all its dependencies.”

FRANKFORT, April 10.

General Kalkreuth, who directs the investment of Meatz, has summoned the city to surrender; but General Poire, who commands there while General Meulier has the command of Cassel, replied, that he would defend it to the last. The bombardment of this unhappy town was therefore begun yesterday. The besiegers having in vain attempted to dislodge the French from the village of Weissenau, which is necessary for them to carry on the operations of the siege, they at length set fire to it. All the environs are likely to be subjected in the fullest extent to all the horrors and devastations of war.

HEIDELBERG, April 18.

General Culture still keeps retiring, Landau is surrounded by twelve thousand Austrians, but the formal siege of that place will not begin till the arrival of some more heavy artillery.

The corps of the Prince of Conde, which is quartered from Spiers to Kreutznach increases daily, and already amounts to 10,000 men.

GHEENT, April 19.

It is this morning reported that the Marquis de la Fayette died on the 12th instant, in the Old Prison in Bern, the manner of his death is variously related. One report is, that the victory of the Austrians over the French at Louvai being extravagantly exaggerated to him, was the cause of his fatal illness. The other is, that the jailor, on discovering Pen, Ink and Paper in his apartment, took the liberty of confining him in the dungeon, wherein the unfortunate General lost his mortal part. This account is not confirmed.

JERSEY, April 11.

Yesterday came a boat from St. Maloes, with twelve emigrants, who escaped in the night.—We learn from them that a fleet of 17 vessels was conveying stores to Havre and Cherbourg, under convoy of three frigates and a sloop of war. They also report, that the Counter Revolutionists in Brittany have gained considerable advantage over the National Troops; that they supposed Nantz to be in the possession of the former; that there were about 1000 Sans Culottes at St. Maloes, that they are much afraid of a descent from the English, and that the people wait at St. Maloes but for protection to become Royalists.

LONDON, April 25.

Lille is well prepared to sustain a siege; 459 pieces of cannon are mounted on the ramparts; the garrison has sufficient stores of ammunition and provisions; and all the approaches to it laid under water.

The war seems to be fruitlessly bloody—in the sally of the French from Cassel, two battalions of Hessians were out to the front, and 3000 French cut down by the Prussian cavalry, without the least apparent advantage to either side.

MAY 7.

The French constantly aserine the fabrication of the forged assignats they make themselves, to their external enemies. The mass of the people really suppose this to be the case, whilst it is well known to all Europe besides, that where one lawful assignat is made in France, ten are forged by the factions which sway the multitude, for their own private purposes. One of their Journals has this curious article: “The Austrian General, Clairfayt, announces in a Procla-