

From the Minerva.

Messrs. Printers.

(Concluded from Yesterday.)

We shall distinguish the passages which Argus cites from the Annual Register, and charges us with omitting, by Italics; his reflections by double commas, and passages from our addition by single commas.

Argus accuses us with omitting, in the beginning of the second volume, some introductory reflections, which he says, "are necessary towards understanding the subsequent parts of the history."—These introductory reflections begin thus; *With the Constituent Assembly the sun of French liberty set.*—The sun of French liberty has not yet set, and we hope never will until time shall be no more.—Our compilers then proceed to make some very severe strictures upon the characters and abilities of the assembly, which appears to be dictated by prejudice and party spirit. They close their abuse by representing the republican philosophers of France as irreligious. *There is, say they, something in true religion which softens the ferocious passions of man; it can arrest the hand of the assassin, it can subvert peace to the perturbed spirit. It rejects the attainment of its end by unlawful means, and follows rather the dictates of conscience and immediate duty, than the most splendid visions which the imagination may form of distant perfection.*

Beautiful sentiments, and pertinently expressed; but here introduced for a very wicked purpose. And we think them complete mockery, in the mouths of the abettors of that government, who are using every possible means to afflict a whole nation with the calamities of famine, fire and sword.—For what offences? because their sentiments of government, and religion are different from their own. And this they pretend, is the cause of the meek and lowly Jesus.

These reflections then, which were calculated and intended to prejudice the reader against the French nation, and the sacred cause of liberty; the editors (as they wished not to be necessary in this sin of deception) thought it a duty they owed to humanity to suppress.—And not thinking themselves authorized to hazard any reflections of their own, they have commenced their second volume with the opening of the assembly. In the first volume the reader is informed that the constituent assembly, had dissolved itself. And with respect to the name of this new body, it is generally, throughout the English compilation, denominated, the Assembly. However, in the first line of the contents, prefixed to the second volume, we notified the reader that it was called, the Legislative Assembly. The assertion of Argus, therefore, on this head is not true.

(For the words omitted, the reader is referred to the Minerva of the 23d instant.)

Original, page 116.

In the passage, here omitted, the compilers endeavor to prepossess the reader against the future proceedings of the Assembly. The editors have faithfully recorded their acts, and the reader can judge of their propriety.

Original, page 124. Copy 33.

Gentleness of disposition and tenderness of character, are epithets not applicable to the name of Louis XVI.—The history of the French revolution prove this assertion, a work entitled, the crimes of the Kings of France, adduces stubborn facts in justification of it.

Original, same page. Copy 34.

And their innocent monarch would never have fallen a sacrifice to a relentless mob.

Has Argus the hardiness to contend that Louis XVI. fell a sacrifice to a mob? Had he not the fairest trial that 'tis possible for an individual to have? being tried by the Representatives of the whole nation, of which he was a member. And have not the nation universally approved of their decision?

Original, page 126. Copy 38.

Is it possible to conceive the statement here given to be true, when we consider the unanimity of the nation in this revolution; and that they have not only shaken off their prejudices respecting the mode of worship, but even become professed deists; The Clergy were opposed to the revolution, the people universally for it. All our accounts from France contradict the above statement, in the Annual Register. That it is true, when applied to the department of La Vendee is most probable.

Original, page 130.

Here is a paradox, which American Republicans would never have understood; that a society set up in opposition to the republican party, and the

Jacobins, were to open the eyes of the public to their true interest.

Tho we cheerfully acknowledge the merits and virtues of this distinguished patriot and soldier [La Fayette] yet we think the epithets of a *violent and desperate faction*, applied to a great majority of the Assembly, and nation of France, highly improper.

The accusations against the Brissotine party, which we have subjoined to our second volume, will probably throw more light upon the subject of General La Fayette's defection, than any other publication that has yet appeared in America.

"To suppress a fact or sentiment, because honorable to him, [La Fayette] is the effect of poor, pitiful, contemptible jealousy."

This sentence contains a number of favorite epithets of our critic; which it probable some future compiler of his works will think proper to omit; as it will be difficult to conceive, how it were possible that any jealousy should at this time subsist between the Editors, and General La Fayette.

The circumstances of the assassination of Mr. Berthois, we think too particular for a compendious history. Many hundred instances of equal cruelty perpetrated by individuals, both of the French and of their enemies, might have been adduced. Besides the comments attached to the relation of this fact tended to throw an odium upon the French in general; by representing them as a nation of barbarians. We think the reflections illiberal and unmerited.

The transactions of the 10th of August, and 2d and 3d of Sept. are so important that we have copied, verbatim, all the official papers relating to those events from the political state of Europe, a work of great merit. The facts are here stated without any comments, which leaves the reader to form his own opinion.

As Thomas Greenleaf and John Fellows, jun. are not the publishers of the memoirs of the Queen of France, they take no notice of the criticisms of Argus on this work.

"How long will you be suffered thus to proceed in spreading the poison of the most detestable doctrines and opinions?" That is how long will you be suffered to circulate democratic or republican sentiments? As long, Sir, as our government remains the same as it now is, we expect that these sentiments will not be proscribed.

In the United States Republican Printers and Book-sellers are in no fear of *Bohany-Bay*. But we ask how long, Sir, will you and other abettors of monarchy, be suffered to insult freemen, by endeavors to introduce into this happy country, the poison of your detestable doctrines? Blush, Sir, at your weakness in thus attempting to impose on the understanding of Americans.

You in the course of your structures seem very fond of applying to us, by way of reproach, the term, Jacobin, and sometimes Democrat. Tho' you are not yet barefaced enough to attempt to stigmatize us by the term Republican, yet you know there is no difference in the meaning of the words, Democrat, and Republican. And, as we are not particularly attached to names, if you mean nothing more by Jacobins than Democrat or Republican—that is a friend and supporter of a free representative government—we have no objection to being called by that name. But if you attach to it any other ideas, than those contained in the foregoing definition, we deny the charge, and challenge you to cite a circumstance in our conduct, inconsistent with the character of democrat, as explained above.

You also accuse us of belonging to a democratic society, who are carrying on "the dark work of faction." Language fails us to chastize with sufficient severity this presumption. How dare you call democrats, in America, a party a faction? Is not our government democratical? Are not the people of America, democrats? Shall all other societies be tolerated, in a free country, and that, whose object is political information, be proscribed? Blush at thus endeavoring to impose on your countrymen, by representing democrats, in a democratical government, as carrying on "the dark work of faction."

It is not probable that you will be gratified in the fulfilment of your prediction, that our history will "moulder away in the neglected corners of our garrets," for the demand for it has already exceeded our most sanguine expectations. And we are convinced, that an attack upon it, from a person of your principles, will increase the sale.

If you should think proper to make any reply to these remarks, we request you, as a man, to throw off the mask, appear in *propria persona*, meet us upon fair ground, and you will find us always ready to defend our democratical sentiments, and to justify our conduct.

THOMAS GREENLEAF,

JOHN FELLOWS Jun.

Foreign Intelligence.

PARIS, August 5.

ERUPTION OF VESUVIUS.

We shall add to what we have already related on the eruption of Vesuvius, an additional circumstance which deserves notice, in the history of the revolutions experienced by the surface of this globe. On the 19th of July, after a most violent detonation, the conic top of the mountain, the summit of which formed a crater, sunk on a sudden; the porous and fiery matter, unable to resist the repeated shocks, occasioned by the violent internal convulsions, precipitated itself into the immense gulph of the volcano. The mountain has lost a great deal of its height, by this uncommon accident; and that part which was formerly least elevated, has now become the highest.

The King desired a detailed account of all the circumstances, and military engineers were sent in consequence, to survey Vesuvius on all its sides. The following is the result of their operations.

The greatest elevation of the lava, 36 palms, (hands).
Its width, 1 mile.
Territory overflowed by the lava, 5 miles.
Inhabitants who took flight, 15,000
Men and women perished, 36
Beasts killed, 4,168
Space which the lava occupied in the sea, 76 palms, (hands).

They are now busy in repairing the damages occasioned by this scourge. Several hundreds of workmen, are employed in mending the houses of Torre del Greco; a new road is made which affords a communication with the provinces; the destroyed houses are a building up again here, as well as at Somma Ottojano, &c. The eruption has sensibly diminished.

Aug 6.

We read in one of the last sittings of the popular society of the commune of Besancon the following passages:

A member announced that an assignat of 1000 livres of the emission of January 15, 1792 has been found. It runs as follows:

Property of the Jacobins.

Mortgaged for the liquidation of these assignats according to the declaration of the powers of Europe sanctioned by the Emperor Leopold December 3.

Assignat of one thousand livres.

The bearer shall be paid the sum of 1000 livres from the treasury of extraordinary confiscations upon proving that by the French Revolution he has lost as much, and that by buying national domains to that amount he was led to it by the infliction of clubs or administrative bodies.

COBURE.

This assignat was found in the pocket of a volunteer who had taken it from an Aulian slain in battle.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL CONVENTION,

August 14.

The minister from the United States to the French republic communicates to the Convention the wish of his fellow citizens for the prosperity of the nation and asks to whom he is to present his credentials.

Referred to the Committee of public safety.

Eschasseriaux reported on the letter of the minister plenipotentiary of the United States of America, referred in the beginning of the sitting of the committee of public safety:

"We have found, said he, no other mode of announcing his diplomatic character to the Republic, than by means of the friendship and fraternity which characterizes a free nation. The fall of the tyrant's throne has carried with it the remains of ancient diplomatic forms and the memory of the pompous and ridiculous ceremonies which the pride of courtiers had invented.

"Let the minister of the United States come in the midst of the representatives of the French Nation and swear the confirmation of that fraternal alliance which is to make liberty triumph; let him be admitted among you as a friend; let all idle parade disappear at a moment when the spirit of the two republican nations is about to unite; let friendship be the only master of ceremonies; let him receive in the bosom of the National Convention, when he has declared the object of his mission, from the President the expression of the fraternal affection of the French nation, and of their desire to cement an alliance

which lays the basis of the freedom of mankind."

Upon the report of the committee of public safety the convention decrees, that the minister plenipotentiary from the United States shall be introduced into the bosom of the convention.—He will communicate the object of his mission; the President will give him the fraternal kiss, symbol of the friendship which unites the American and French people.

The president of the convention shall write to the president of the American congress, and transmit the minute of the sitting.

August 15.

Citizens, Representatives of the French People,

My admittance into this Assembly, in the presence of the representatives of the French nation, and my being acknowledged as American minister, affected my sensibility to a degree which I cannot express. I regard this as a new proof of the friendship and esteem which the French nation has always expressed to their allies, the United States of America.

Republics ought to be still more intimately connected than they are, for they have, on a multitude of accounts, the same interest. This maxim is particularly true with the American and French Republics. Their governments have a great resemblance. They both are founded on the same principles, and the same basis, the equal and unalienable rights of man. The memory of their past misfortunes will abate their future happiness, and strengthen their union. America had her day of oppression, of danger and of bloodshed; but her sons were virtuous and brave. The storm, which had so long darkened her political horizon, is dispelled, and has given her the full enjoyment of peace, of liberty and of happiness.

France the friend and ally of America, assisted her in the conflict, and is now entered upon the same honorable career. I rejoice to say, that while the valour, magnanimity and heroism of her troops attract the wonder and applause of the astonished world, the wisdom and firmness of her councils, give the fairest prospect of a successful termination to her efforts. America is not an uninterested spectatrix of the great crisis. As a certain proof of the zeal of my countrymen for the freedom, prosperity and happiness of the French Republic, I assure you that the continental Congress have requested the President to make known to you this sentiment, and while acting agreeable to the desire of the two houses, the President has enjoined me to declare the congeniality of his sentiment with theirs.

As the powers entrusted to me are now acknowledged by you, I promise to myself the highest satisfaction in the performance of my duty. I am perfectly convinced that while I follow the dictates of my own heart, and offer up my earnest wishes for the liberty and happiness of the French nation, I do express the sentiments of my countrymen: and I shall do every thing which is in my power to preserve and perpetuate the friendship which subsists between the two republics. If I have the happiness to act in such a manner as acquires their esteem, I shall consider such an event as the most fortunate of my life, and feel that internal satisfaction which is due to an honest friend of the cause of liberty.

This speech was, during its delivery, repeatedly interrupted by the applause of the convention.

The same secretary then read the letter of credentials. The president of the convention replied to this effect:

The French people have never forgotten that they owe to the Americans the imitation of liberty. They admired the sublime insurrection of the American people against Albion, of old so proud and now so disgraced. They sent their armies to assist the Americans, and in strengthening the independence of that country, the French, at the same time learned to break the sceptre of their own tyranny, and to erect the statue of liberty on the ruins of a throne founded upon the corruption and the crimes of fourteen centuries.

The President proceeded to remark that the alliance between the two Republics was not merely a diplomatic transaction, but an alliance of cordial friendship. He hoped that this alliance would be indissoluble, and prove the scourge of tyrants, and the protection of the rights of man. He observed how differently an American ambassador would have been received in France six years ago, by the usurper of the liberty of the people; and how much merit he would have claimed for having graciously condescended to take the United States under his protection. At this

day, it is the sovereign people itself, represented by its faithful deputies, that receives the ambassador with real attachment, while affected formality is at an end. He longed to crown it with the fraternal embrace. "I am charged," said he "to give it in the name of the French nation. Come and receive it in the name of the American nation, and let this scene destroy the last hope of the impious coalition of tyrants."

August 11.

Barrere appeared at the tribune. The army of the Western Pyrenees, continues the successes, while the taking of Fuentarabia made us expect. On the 1st inst. our heroes took 30 redoubts of the enemy; on the 2d they drove the Spaniards from several formidable forts; on the 3d they presented themselves before St. Sebastian, and on the 4th the Alcaide [chief magistrate] delivered the keys of that fortress.—2000 men laid down their arms, and are prisoners of war.

More than 180 brass cannon, immense magazines, provisions of all kinds, and 25 Spanish vessels, these are but one part of the advantages which this victory offers.

The very day of the taking of St. Sebastian, two Spanish vessels entered its port.

On the other side, the advanced troops of our army have made themselves masters of Tolosa [the best town of Guipuscoa on the river Orio in the interior.] The province of Guipuscoa, which seems to be the natural barrier between France and Spain, has desired, to form part of the Republic.

The National Convention being informed afterwards, that the Spanish generals, in spite of the sacred rights of nations, had violated the capitulation of Collioure, by refusing to release an equal number of French officers, for those Spanish officers sent away on their parole, has denounced to all Europe this heinous perfidy and decreed that, in case that treaty should not be executed, no quarter should be given to the Spaniards neither in battles, nor in camps. The Convention delivered at the same time Spanish Cerdagne [part of Catalonia] from feodality. Lastly it was decreed, that the army of the Western Pyrenees, did not cease to deserve well of their country.

LIVERPOOL, August 25.

At the Quarter Sessions, for this Town, Thomas Spur, of Liverpool, victualler, was found guilty of the following seditious expressions, viz. "God d—n the King;" and on being asked what King he meant, replied, "The King of England, George the Third; God d—n him;" and for saying, "A speedy death to all Kings; d—n the King, and all that take his part—and should the French come into England, I will take their part." To be imprisoned 18 months in the House of Correction at Preston; to pay a fine of 50l. to be bound over to his good behaviour for two years more, himself in 200l. and two sureties in 100l. each.

Mary Spur, sister to the above, was found guilty of the following seditious actions and expressions, viz. That selecting the Kings from a pack of cards, she cut off their heads, saying "A speedy death to all Kings, and the Duke of York a prisoner at Paris; and should the French come to England, I will sell my cloaths to procure them meat." To be imprisoned 6 months in the House of Correction at Preston; to be bound over to her good behaviour for one year more, herself in 50l. and two sureties in 25l. each.

LONDON August 26.

Married—A Miss Fish, the daughter of a rich Citizen of London, to a Mr. Hoaks, without a guinea—the lady's fortune is 20,000l. which the husband drew at sight, and the draft may well be called miraculous.

ALARMING EMIGRATION.

The emigrations from every part of this country to the United States of America are become general. The Factor, Captain Bowen, sailed for New-York on Tuesday last, with eighty-four passengers, and the Mohawk, Captain Allen, which sailed a short time since, carried forty seven families from the county of Suffolk. All the American ships which sailed from Liverpool and Bristol for these twelve months past have been crowded with families, who have sought an asylum in that hospitable clime. The Hope captain Johnson, which left Liverpool last Sunday evening, took Ralph Eddowes, Esq. of Chester, with his wife and five children, accompanied with four other of the principal families of that city.

Mr. Eddowes has taken with him a property of twenty six thousand pounds, and his friends possessed an independence little inferior to this respectable citizen.

Mr. Cooper of Manchester, with a