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## Late Foreign News.

### THE ADDRESS.

OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY OF FRANCE,  
TO THE FIRST CONSUL.

Citizen First Consul,

THE members of the legislative body are no sooner assembled, than they reciprocate a common zeal for their country; and at this important epoch they cannot feel indifferent to the National will, so loudly and generally expressed. Scattered over the various departments of this great empire, they know its wants and habits. They know that the energy and action of the power which governs, should be commensurate with the extent of territory and population. When this relation, established by nature, is neglected by the legislator, his work must perish.

The chief blessing of a man is tranquillity and peace; and these depend on permanent institutions. The supreme power which guarantees them, ought, therefore, to be secure from the caprice of elections. Every elective government is inconstant, violent, and helpless as the passions of men; whilst hereditary power gives to the social system the force, the continuance and constancy, to the designs of nature. An uninterrupted succession of authority, in the same family, will maintain the peace and existence of all.—It is necessary, for the perpetual security of their rights, that the authority, which protects them should be eternal. The people who unite the most capricious levity, with the most eminent qualities, must supremely prefer a system, which confirms their virtues, by repressing their inconstancy.

History, every where discovers at the head of great nations, a single hereditary chief. But this high Magistracy is not instituted but for general good. If it is weak it fails, if violent it destroys itself; and in either case it merits its fate, for it oppresses the people, or fails to protect them. In one word this authority, which ought to be tutelar, ceases to be lawful, when it is not national.

No!—doubtless, those mighty beings were not Gods, whom general interest has deified, and associated in brilliant and inaccessible spheres, that law proclaimed from such authority might have the more splendour, controul, and influence. But if the grandeur of monarchy is not founded on the extravagant fictions which delude the multitude, it is supported by all those political maxims which the lessons of adversity, and the voice of sages have established.

Ancient illusions have ceased; but do we need a man of our choice? Scarcely has he numbered thirty-four years, and the events of his life are more wonderful than the fables, with which history has surrounded the cradles of ancient dynasties.

The triumph and will of the nation cannot be resisted. Such extraordinary changes are not new. It is at the noise and tumult of thrones which fall, which rise, and should fall again, that successive ages meditate on the inconstancy of human affairs. Old empires are regenerated at such important eras, and the chief of a new monarchy communicates to them the energy of his spirit, and the vigor of his enterprise.

We doubt not, a career of prosperity and glory again opens for our posterity. The 19th century at its commencement, presents to the universe a most magnificent spectacle, and instructive lesson.—It consecrates the principle of hereditary power, and opinion, for the happiness of France; whose revolution it terminates, and for the example of Europe, whose errors it prevents.

The human mind, troubled with the worst of diseases, the disease of perfection, has wished to create a new race of men; to form new societies and another world. But soon frightened at its work, and wearied at its efforts, it has returned to the track of experience, and submits to the authority of ages.—It is at the moment it recognizes its limits, the human mind is truly enlarged—it is at the moment that it learns to check its weakness, that it justly directs the exercise of its power—the remembrance of its past deviations will afford a useful foresight; and the fear of falling into its first excesses will not hurry it to the contrary extreme.

We shall not witness the deadly stupor of slavery succeeding the mad tumult of democracy. No!—Citizen First Consul, you would not command but a free peo-

ple; we know it; and will, therefore, obey you always. The departments of government will be balanced with wisdom; they will preserve every thing that will support, nothing that can destroy, liberty. The Imperial Government will confirm all the blessings of the consulate, and will increase them. The security of hereditary power will temper all its measures. It is less rigorous, for it has fewer obstacles to vanquish, and smaller dangers to encounter—the greater its moderation, the more controuling its influence; and if it aims at extension, it relaxes and destroys itself. Thus the prerogative of the Emperor, better defined, will be more limited than those of the First Consul. The danger of a faction compelled the establishment of a temporary dictator—these times are past—Monarchy is regenerated—Liberty must be immortal—the dictatorship expires—and natural authority commences his reign.

(Signed)

FONTANES.

This famous declaration in favour of Monarchy, was preceded by the following expression of the will of the legislative body:

They declare their WILL (VOEU) as follows: That Napoleon Buonaparte, First Consul, shall be declared Emperor; that the Imperial dignity should be hereditary in his family; that the representative system should be established on a solid basis; and that the civil institutions should receive a character of greatness due to the Majesty of the French nation, guaranteeing at once the authority of the nation and the liberty of the people.

Similar requests to the great Napoleon, that he would become Emperor of the Gauls, have been made by several cities, and detachments of the army.

### THE MOST GRACIOUS ANSWER OF THE FIRST CONSUL, TO THE ADDRESS OF THE SENATORS.

YOUR address of the 6th Germinal, has never ceased to be present to my mind, it has been the object of my most constant attention.

You have judged it necessary that the supreme magistracy should be hereditary, in order to secure the French People from the plots of our enemies, and from the convulsions which would spring from the ambition of rivals. Many of our institutions must have appeared to you to be brought to perfection, and to be the most perfect to secure the triumph of Equality and public Liberty, and to offer to the nation and to the government, the double guarantee, which they so much want.

We have constantly been guided by this great truth, that the sovereignty resides in the French people; on this basis, every thing, without exception, must be done for their interests, happiness, and glory; in order to obtain this end, the Supreme Majesty, the Senate, the Council of the State, the Legislative Body, the Elective Colleges, and the various branches of the Administration, are and must be instituted. When I have fixed my attention on these great objects, the more I have been persuaded of the truth of the sentiments which I expressed to you, and I have felt the more & more that, in circumstances as new as important, the aid of your wisdom and experience have been necessary to me in every step.

I then invite you to make known to me freely your sentiments.

The French people have nothing to add to the honor and the glory which they have conferred upon me;—but the duty, the most sacred to me, and the most dear to my heart, is to ensure to their children the advantages acquired by the revolution, which has cost them so much above all, the sacrifice of a million of brave men, who have died for the defence of their rights.

I wish we may say to them on the 14th of July of this year—fifteen years have elapsed since by a spontaneous movement, you ran to arms, you acquired liberty, equality, and glory! This day those first blessings of nations are firmly fixed and secured against all tempests; they are preserved to you and your children; institutions conceived and commenced in the bosom of the storms of war, interior and exterior, are about to terminate amidst the noise of wicked attempts and plots of our most mortal enemies, in the adoption of every measure which the experience of ages and the people have demonstrated proper, to guarantee the rights which the nation had judged necessary to her dignity, liberty, and happiness.

LONDON, June 2.

By Paris papers of the 20th ult. it appears, that on the 18th, the Senatus Consultum, respecting the Imperial dignity to be bestowed on Buonaparte was finally adopted and presented to the First Consul by the Senate in a body. This act contains 143 articles, and is in substance as follows:

“Napoleon Buonaparte is declared Emperor of the French, and the Imperial dignity hereditary in the legitimate descent from male to male, in the order of primogeniture, to the exclusion of females and their descent. The first consul may adopt the children or the grand children of his brothers, provided they have attained the age of eighteen years complete, and he himself have no children.—Adoption is prohibited to his successors. In default of a natural heir of the First Consul, or of any adopted heir, the Empire will be transmitted, to Louis and his descendants. In case of failure of the heirs of Joseph and Lewis Buonaparte, a Senatus Consultum proposed to the Senate by the Titulares of the great dignities of the Empire, and submitted to the people, shall appoint an Emperor. The members of the Imperial Family shall bear the title of French Princes. The eldest son of the Emperor shall bear the title of Imperial Prince. A French Prince who shall marry without permission from the Emperor, shall be deprived of all right to the inheritance, unless he shall have no children by his marriage, and it shall be afterwards dissolved.

“The brothers of Buonaparte are to be created French Princes. Imperial Palaces are to be established in four principal points of the Empire. Females are in all cases excluded from the Regencies; and the reigning Emperor may, previous to his death, appoint a Regent from amongst the French Princes; if this heir male is a minor.

“The titularies of the great dignities of the Empire are, the Great Elector, the Arch Chancellor of the Empire, the Arch Chancellor of State, the Arch Treasurer, the Constable, and the High Admiral.—They shall be nominated by the Emperor, and they shall enjoy the same honors as the French princes, and rank immediately after them; they shall be Senators and Counsellors of State; they shall form the great Council of the Emperor.

“The other great officers are one Marshal of the Empire, chosen from among the most distinguished Generals, twenty-eight Inspectors, Colonels-generals of Artillery, Cavalry and the Marine; three great Civil Officers of the Crown, such as shall be instituted by the statutes of the Emperor. The laws are to be thus promulgated:

“Napoleon by the Grace of God, and the Constitution of the Republic, Emperor of the French, &c.

The adoption of the Senatus Consultum has been announced by discharges of Artillery.

PARIS, May 28.

The Senate preceded by the Consul Cambaceres decreed in its sitting the 28th Floreal in which were present the Consul Lebrun, and the Ministers, the Organic Senatus Consultum which confers the title of Emperor upon the First Consul, and which establishes the Imperial dignity in his family.

It was then proposed and adopted to repair to St. Cloud, in order to present the Organic Senatus Consultum to the Emperor. The Senate set out immediately as the sitting broke up. The cavalcade was accompanied by numerous bodies of troops.

The Senate on its arrival was instantly admitted to an audience of the Emperor.

The Consul Cambaceres, president, having presented the Organic Senatus Consultum to the First Consul thus addressed him:

“Sire, the decree which the Senate has just passed, & which it hastens to present to your Imperial Majesty, is but the authentic expression of a will already manifested by the nation. This decree, which conferred upon you a new title, and which after you secures the hereditary power to your race; adds nothing either to your glory, or to your rights.

“The love and the acknowledgment of the French people have, for four years past confided to your Majesty, the reins of the government; and the Constitution of the State already trusted to you for the choice of a successor.

“The very splendid title decreed you is then but a tribute which the Nation

pays to its own dignity, and to the want it feels of daily bestowing on you those testimonies of respect and attachment which every day augments.

“How can the French people place bounds to their gratitude when you set none to your cares and solicitude for them?

“How can they, whilst preferring the recollection of the evils they have suffered when they were delivered up to themselves, think without enthusiasm of the happiness they have experienced since Providence inspired them with the wish of throwing themselves into your arms?

“Our armies were vanquished; our finances were in disorder; public credit was overturned; factions disputed what was left of our ancient splendour; the ideas of religion and even of morality were obscured, the habits of giving and recalling alms, and even of giving without kind of authority.

“Your Majesty appeared. You bro't victory to our standards; you established order and economy in public expences; the nation tranquilized by the manner in which you made use of its resources, again placed confidence in them; your wisdom has calmed the fury of parties; you have re-established the altars of religion, notions of justice and injustice have awakened in the minds of the citizens, since they have beheld crimes followed by their punishment, and virtues signalized and recompensed by honourable distinctions.

“In short, and here beyond a doubt is the greatest miracle your genius has wrought this people, whom civil effervescence had rendered indocil to every constraint, enemies to all authority, you have induced to cherish and respect a power, exercised only for its glory and repose.

“The French do not pretend to set themselves up as judges of the constitution of other States.

“They have no criticisms to make, no examples to follow; experience henceforth forms their lesson.

“They have during centuries enjoyed the advantages attached to hereditary power;

“They have had a short but painful experience of the contrary system;

“They return after having impartially considered and reflected, to a path conformable to their genius.

“They freely make use of their rights in order to delegate to your Imperial Majesty a power which their interests forbid them from exercising themselves.

“They stipulate for the generations to come, and by a solemn pact, they confide the happiness of their posterity to the branches of your race.

“The latter will imitate your virtues:

“The former will inherit our love and our fidelity.

“Happy the nation which after so many troubles and uncertainties, finds in itself a man capable of appeasing the tempest of the passions, of conciliating every interest, and uniting all suffrages!

Happy the Prince who holds his power from the will, the confidence, and the affections of the Citizens!

“If it enters into the principle of our constitution, and already many similar examples have been given, to submit to the sanction of the people that part of the decree which concerns the establishment of an Hereditary Government, the Senate is of opinion, that it ought to supplicate Your Imperial Majesty to allow the organic dispositions immediately to receive their execution; and for the glory, as well as for the happiness of the republic it proclaims from this very instant Napoleon, Emperor of the French.

The Emperor replied as follows:

“Every thing which can contribute to the good of the Country, is essentially connected with my happiness.

“I accept the title which you think useful to the glory of the Nation.

“I submit to the sanction of the people, the law concerning the hereditary power. I hope that France will never repent of the honours with which it has surrounded my family.

“At all events, my mind will no longer remain with my posterity, whenever they cease to merit the love and confidence of the great Nation.”

The Senate was then admitted to an audience of Her Majesty the Empress.

The Consul Cambaceres, president, then addressed her: