

## VIEW OF AUSTRIA.

[The following details (translated from this Gazette) from a late number of the Journal du Soir, a Paris paper, must be extremely interesting to the political reader, as exhibiting a view of the territorial extent, the population, and resources of one of the "substantive powers" of Europe—a power which, for a time, seems to have been broken down by the over-bearing genius of Buonaparte, but which from its physical strength must again rise to its wonted rank in the scale of nations.]—*Salem Gazette.*

Environed on every side by the great empires of France, Russia, Prussia and Turkey, Austria cannot remain an unconcerned spectator of the political turmoil, which at present agitate Europe. Her singular position adds immensely to the importance which her population, her arms, and her territorial wealth, have conferred upon her.

The possessions of the house of Austria, do not constitute, like those of France and Spain, one of the immutable divisions of the globe, where the aim of the politician is simply to maintain the unity previously settled by the decrees of nature. We may consider the Austrian empire as naturally divided into five grand sections. The circle of Austria with the country of indemnity, occupies a space of 6,600 square leagues (of 25 to the degree) inhabited by 4,600,000 souls. The Kingdom of Bohemia, including Moravia, and Austrian Silesia, composes the second section of this great empire. Its superficies has been estimated at 3,900 square leagues, and the number of inhabitants (which in these provinces are continually multiplying) exceeds 4,700,000. Galicia (more properly Gallizia) comprehends the Austrian division of Poland, together with the Bukowine, heretofore a part of Moldavia; by the nearest conjecture, this immense territory covers a space of at least 8,000 square leagues; while the best received accounts hardly give a population of 4,500,000, though it has been increased one-fifth since the division. The fourth great section of the states of Austria takes in the Kingdom of Hungary, Transylvania, Slavonia, and some other provinces: this single division is equal to the whole Prussian monarchy; for, over a surface of 17,400 square leagues is spread a population of 9,200,000 inhabitants. Lastly, the Austro-Venetian states, which, though the least extensive, are by far the fairest portion of the empire, embrace an extent of 1,900 square leagues, and a population of 2,000,000 souls. Thus, after the most scrupulous review of authorities,\* and the nicest computations, we think it probable that the Austrian empire at this period, covers a portion of the globe of 26,000 square leagues, and is inhabited by 25,000,000 of souls. By this it will be seen that Austria is by one-sixth more extensive than France; but that space, which in France contains 100 inhabitants, in Austria contains only 65. In Prussia but 60, and in Russia not more than 14.

The great diversity of origin, language and interests, among the people of these states is a still further check upon their political importance. We can scarcely count up 7,000,000 of native Germans, whilst those nations of Slavonic origin, as the Bohemians, Poles, and the Slavonians of Hungary, form a total of more than 12,000,000. The native Hungarians to the number of 3,000,000 have not the slightest resemblance to their neighbours. They are descended not from the Huns, but from a race of Finlanders, the same people who formerly occupied the north and north-eastern extremities of Russia. The Wallachians too, the Venetians and other nations less numerous, preserve each their peculiar idioms, their manners, their annals of national glory, and local interests; add to this, no two provinces are under the same political regulations. In the province of Transylvania alone there are three different forms of government.—The nobles of Hungary, have from time immemorial, affected republican aristocracy.—The Tyrolese (and this they owe in part to their position, as well as to their courage) still preserve some semblance of a democracy. Neither the Venetians nor the Bohemians have forgotten their ancient prerogatives though diminished by the jealous policy of Austria—that very policy which has left with the Polanders a faint image of his diet. Thus the empire of Austria is, strictly speaking, a federative monarchy. Joseph the second felt, very severely, the inconveniences arising from such a dispersion of force and interest: but his impetuosity hurried him into measures at once violent and ill conducted; he struck at the very root of all old prejudices—he galled the consciences of his subjects.—From the old venerable forms of divine worship, down to the paltry dialect of a province, every thing was in one day to bear a character of the most rigorous uniformity. This princely reformer thought a decree

\* My authorities are—the works of M. De Luca, professor at the University of Vienna, the statistical annals of M. de Lichtenstein, the Archives of Schoeazar, Travels of Hacquet, Ferber, Hermanne, Hungarian Statistics of Novotny, &c. in fine a hundred German and other works, of which I availed myself in making the description of the Austrian empire, which occupies the first 200 pages of the 4th volume of the Mathematical, Physical and Political Geography of all parts of the world published by Tardieu and Laporte. In that may be found under each province all the details of statistics or political geography of which I have here given an abstract.

was all that was necessary, to transform the Hungarian and the Belgian into philosophic Germans, and to give to an immense majority, the language, manners and ideas of the minority. The consequences of so violent a system, threatened the empire with total dissolution. The Tyrolese murmured—Belgia was in arms—Poland stood collected and indignant—and the fate of Austria was committed to the Hungarians:—and those same Hungarians, whose generous fidelity had once saved Maria Theresa, now boldly told Joseph, that as he had not deigned to be crowned in Hungary, he was not their king, but a foreign usurper. The unhappy monarch heard from his death bed the shrieks of rebellion, and alarm of civil war, which on every side menaced his throne. The first step of his successor, Leopold II. was to replace every thing on its ancient footing; to yield even to prejudices and to restore to each portion of the empire what its various inhabitants looked upon as the basis of their happiness, and the palladium of their liberty.

The slow and imperceptible action of ages can alone wear away those prominent traits of character, which at present distinguish the spirited and intrepid Hungarian from the cautious and phlegmatic German; or the superstitious and savage Wallachian, from the industrious and ingenious inhabitants of Bohemia; time alone can accustom the brave Polanders and the haughty Venetians to a foreign domination, however mild and politic it may be.

Venice, the seat of elegance and refinement, as well as Prague the protectress of literature and the arts, behold with regret the lustre which the presence of the government sheds over Vienna—over that Vienna which the people of Berlin and even of Hamburg, have loaded with so many epigrams. The inhabitants of Vienna enjoy the same reputation throughout Germany, which the Boetians formerly did in Greece, and the people of Champagne in France. Prejudices like these, which stigmatize a whole nation, are certainly unjust; but such is the fact nevertheless, that Vienna has never acquired that empire of opinion, temper and habit, which Paris and London exercise over the provinces; a circumstance which to an enlightened mind, cannot appear of trivial importance to the state.

For some years past, the Poles and Hungarians have redoubled their efforts and zeal to enrich, and preserve, and bring their languages to the nearest possible degree of perfection. It is only in Bohemia and Moravia, that the German language has hitherto spread. But we have dwelt long enough upon the imbecility of the Austrians: let us now turn our eyes to the brilliant tablet of her territorial wealth.

Bohemia is encompassed by mountains abounding in precious stones, copper, iron and particularly tin. The pine and the fir, crown the lofty summits of these mountains; while the sturdy oak and linden overhang their bold acclivities. The surface of the wide spread hills, wave with "vegetable gold" and purple; and their grape distils a rich and palatable liquor, though not admitting of transportation. Their wheat, corn, flax, hemp, are all excellent; and their hops are superior to any in Europe. Great pains are taken to perfect their breed of sheep and render the texture of their fleeces more delicate.—The skins of the Bohemian hares are much esteemed in the manufacture of hats. The productions of Moravia are similar to those of Bohemia; but the cattle of Austrian Silesia are finer because they receive much more attention. These beautiful provinces at first inhabited by indolent hordes of Slavonians, are indebted to the colonies of Germans settled among their mountains, for their linens, cloths, muslins, hats, glass and crystals; a circumstance which will always leave the balance of commerce in their favor.

The soil of Austria Proper, is much more favorable to the cultivation of the vine, than of corn.—It yields many kinds of salts, but not of the finest crystallization. From a false principle of political economy, every species of manufacture is concentrated in the capital. Those of silk, cotton, calicoes, arms and jewels are in the most flourishing state; clock-making is likewise carried on to a great extent. But the imperial manufactory of wool near Lintz, surpasses them all in real utility.

Styria furnished the Romans in ancient times with iron, and yet its mines seem inexhaustible. The lead of Carinthia is of an excellent quality, and the quick-silver mine in Idria is unrivalled. In the Tyrol and in Salzburg there are enormous masses of salgemma stretching along the line of the northern half of those majestic Alps, which here rise to a height little below that of Mount Blanc.\* Mountains & islands seem throughout the world to be the native seats of courage, strength and activity. The minds of men in such situations are much more bold and daring, and their bodies of a robust make.—With the assistance of a rope ladder the Tyrolese will often scale the most tremendous precipices; he breaks up the little patches of land on the craggy cliffs, and covers them with luxuriant herbage, though enveloped in eternal snows. But the labors of the hardy Tyrolese will never vanquish a soil inimical to culture. Yet he is never discouraged. He knows how to extract aroma-

\* The Arch Duke Charles, who is well versed in mineralogy and geology with the lord Bishop of Guick and other distinguished personages, recently made a tour to the Alps; the interesting result has been published in the "Journal des mines Allemand" by the Baron de More.

tic waters from some alpine plants, and with a few marmots which he has accustomed to a state of captivity (such are his simple treasures) he traverses all Germany, vending little Italian gewgaws, and returns to his humble shed considerably enriched.

The inhabitant of the Austro-Venetian states, is not reduced to so painful a subsistence: the Alps for him ascend the skies, and save him from the northern blast: for him the fields of Padua nourish flocks, whose fleeces vie with those of Spain—for him the orange, the citron, and the fig, carefully sheltered at the approach of Winter, display the live long summer their richest verdure and their luscious fruit: the flexible vine encircles with its tendrils the purple mulberry; and, safe beneath their natural vine props, his corn-fields never dread a burning sky. The craggy and romantic shores of Istria and Dalmatia, afford many excellent havens; and if ever a canal should be cut between the Danube and the Adriatic, they will be places of great traffic. They are even now endeavoring to render the river Kulpa navigable; this stream falls into the Save, and has its source only six leagues distant from the Gulph of Quarnero.

Hungary would feel the importance of such an opening more than any other portion of the Austrian dominions: and most assuredly this extensive and beautiful country deserves the most favourable regards of its government.—How various, how rich, how abundant are the productions of this territory. Light are the toils of its husbandmen. So rich a soil, assisted by the genial influence of a mild and humid atmosphere, yields an almost spontaneous vegetation. Here vast herds of oxen with horns of enormous size range majestically over plains bounded only by the horizon: there thousands of horses bound upon the distant hills, and snuff the invigorating breeze. Through luxurious fields of corn and maize are interspersed orchards of figs, of almonds, of plumbs, and of chestnuts. The vine of Tokay imbibes its luscious juice from a soil of decomposed basalt; previous to their being expressed, the grapes are culled and dried in the sun. The red wine of Smyrna resembles that of Montapuciano; and for the most part, the vineyards of Slavonia and Croatia appear not unworthy of their Greek and Italian extraction. It is true that some parts of Hungary present a rougher aspect; mountains where rocky summits rise in terrific grandeur above the dark and interminable forests, producing nothing but here and there a scanty blade of oats: but much treasure is concealed within their bowels—gold pure and fine, copper in the greatest abundance and of the best quality, the only true opal, and immense quantities of sal-minerals.

There is not a single province under the dominion of Austria that is destitute of natural riches. Even the cold and rugged Gallicia may boast of her noble herds, her luxuriant fields of wheat and rye, but especially of her salt mines, situated near Bohemia and Wieliczka; they are too well known to require any thing but a bare mention. The opening of several mines of iron, and felling of wood, as well as the breeding of sheep, may hereafter prove sources of wealth to this province. But the principal natural outlets of this country, are under a foreign government. Hungary is similarly circumstanced with regard to the Danube, as is Bohemia to the Elbe. So that after all her acquisitions and extension of territory, Austria is still cramped and fettered in every direction, because she has no invulnerable sides.

Let any one take a view of the military frontiers of the Austrian empire, and he will be made sensible of the inefficiency of her system of aggrandizement. Galicia, within her present limits, has not one natural barrier. If the Austrian armies should be called out to defend this country, every thing must be committed to their courage, and in case of a defeat, their only safe retreat would be the Carpathian mountains. Bohemia is secure at present from a sudden invasion.—Prague is covered by the fortresses of Egra, of Theresienstat, of Plessy and of Olmutz.—The Tyrol is another rampart for Austria. That and Bohemia form two bastions, which the nature of things require to be connected by the famous line of the inn, of which Austria has not yet obtained the cession. These fortifications are already erected in the territory formerly belonging to Venice; but considering the partition of Dalmatia, and drawing a line from the mouth of the Cattaro towards Orsova and Belgrade, we may easily conceive how infinitely important it must be to Austria to have her views accomplished.

It is supposed that Austria maintains in time of peace an army of 380,000 fighting men; of which 240,000 are regular infantry, 50,000 are cavalry, 12,000 artillery, and 70,000 militia stationed along the frontiers with other irregular troops. The Hungarian and Polish cavalry are the finest in the world. The Tyrolese are formidable marksmen, and the Austrians after a seven years terrible apprenticeship to the art of war, are ranked among the finest soldiers of Europe. The disasters of their armies are attributed entirely to the baleful influence of the Aulic military council, which the wisdom of their arch duke Charles has of late confined within a narrow compass, but not entirely destroyed. Without permission from Vienna, their generals could not strike a blow. The want of information among the subalterns has been a subject of public reprehension with the great

! This circumstance singularly confirms Pliny's account of the sailing of the Argonauts, and renders superfluous the hypotheses and reveries of some modern authors on this subject.

man above named; a prince who has obtained the glorious title of the restorer of the military discipline of his country.

The Austrian marine is yet to be created, M. de Lichtenstein asserts that in 1802, there were 2400 national vessels in the ports of Austria, but he must have enumerated every little fishing-boat. In the same manner the number of vessels arriving at Trieste in one year, has been swelled to 6000 or 7000. I believe there are about 500 vessels above ten tons, the property of Austrian subjects. The establishment of a marine, without a coast many times more extended, would be a very difficult undertaking for Austria as well as Prussia, and after all of very doubtful utility.

The financial system of Austria has undergone and is every day undergoing so many changes, that it would be impossible to say any thing of it with precision. It is said that the revenues of the state, which have been very much increased for the last years amount to 193,000,000 florins of Vienna, (free of the expences of collection) a sum equivalent to 507,000,000 of francs, reckoning the florin at its current value in Austria. But the course of exchange with other countries being very unfavorable to Austria, this sum would hardly represent 400,000,000. However, the revenues of this empire are undoubtedly double those of Prussia, a little less than those of France in 1789; according to the statement of Mr. Neckar.

MALTHEERUN.

PHILADELPHIA, August 26.

Yesterday morning between 9 and 10 o'clock Gen. MOREAU, accompanied by his Lady, two children and attendants, landed at Almond's-street wharf, from on board the ship New-York, capt. Geroge, and were conducted in private gentlemen's carriages to lodgings at M. S. Cottineau's, Spruce-street. The general is of common stature, a strongly marked countenance, and was very plainly attired.

Extract of a letter, from a gentleman on board the John Adams, dated Gibraltar June the 15th, 1805, received at New-York. "We arrived safe at this place, after a passage of 32 days. On our arrival we found two of our gun-boats from N. York and one from Washing on, we having parted with a number of them three days after leaving New-York in a gale of wind.—Three other gun-boats had arrived before, and proceeded up the Mediterranean, and four more are daily expected. With the assistance of these, we will proceed to make the attack on Tripoli, and I trust we shall bring the scoundrels to proper terms.—Should we prove successful, you may expect my return before the expiration of two years, for which I am engaged. I am happy to inform you that we lost but three men on our outward passage notwithstanding the crowded state of the ship. Gun boat No. 6, has not yet arrived, but no apprehensions for her safety are entertained, as she is an excellent sea boat.

In the REGISTER of Friday last, we stated upon authority which we then deemed correct, "that the matters in dispute between the United States and the Government of Spain, were amicably adjusted."—This information we now believe to be incorrect.—A letter from Cadiz, of the 25th of June, to a respectable merchant in this city, says, that the "negotiations were broken off, and that the ministers had separated in very ill humor."—*Philadelphia Register.*

The researches which have been made for some years at Pomona, in the Neapolitan territory, have been attended, it appears with great success. The King and Queen of Naples lately visited this subterranean town, and were shown, among other new discoveries, an ancient edifice in which had been found some very beautiful vases, medals, musical instruments, and what is much more valuable, a bronze statue of Hercules, killing the famous hind in the chase. The design and composition of the group are unequalled. Some very fine paintings have also been found in the same edifice, one of which represents Diana surprised by Acton, the colouring of Diana equals any thing Titian has ever produced, and the piece, in short will stand a competition with the most esteemed paintings in our Museums.

Paris Argus.

We learn that a part of the collection of the curiosities obtained by Capt. Lewis on the Missouri, has reached Baltimore. Among these are a living animal, called the wild dog of the Prairie, and the magpie.—Four magpies were kept, but one of them destroyed the other three.

We understand that orders have been received from the Governor of Virginia by the officers of militia, in Petersburg and its neighborhood; requiring them to organize and discipline their respective companies and also to be in readiness to march at an hour's warning. The Volunteer companies more especially are expected to be foremost in alacidity, and subordination, and are first to oppose any insult or outrage, from whatever source they may come.

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