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INTERCEPTED CORRESPONDENCE.

From Napoleon to the Queen of Sicily, upon occasion of the union he had contracted with her, the Archduchess Maria Louisa.

Enclosed in a letter from madam Beuret, Paris, the 28th Feb. to her husband, the 17th regiment of light infantry, the second division of the second corps of the French army in Spain, and was intercepted by the light parties attached to the army of the north. The original is in the possession of his excellency the Marquis of Romana, to whom was delivered.]

Letter from Madam Beuret to her husband.

My dear and good friend:—I have just received a pretty large packet enclosing a letter for my dear M. Clersif, another for the mayor of Seville, and a fourth for M. De Barthiley. I am very glad that you have written to the last named, as my papa had just received a letter from him, complaining of your silence, and expressing his fears that you would imitate your poor father and forget him. He is much attached to you, and will write to you as soon as we have informed him of the number of your corps and divisions. You say nothing concerning your health; I conclude that you are completely recovered, your frequenting the lodges of the free-masons is good, notwithstanding the cold we experience here. Papa and mamma are very well, and Eugene better than any of us. He is usually talking of you, and is the favorite of the family, and the object of our caresses. I shall have the best reception to Mrs. de Bureau, when she arrives. You need not be uneasy, for I will fully attend to your orders. A number of battalions are raising for the imperial guard: all the young men prefer serving in a corps usually remains in garrison, in Paris, to go to die in Spain. It is said, the emperor will go off for that kingdom on the 20th inst. but is nothing certain upon this subject. God knows what he may go for; for you might probably, in that case, be placed near his person, and obtain some estate of 5000 pieces a year, with the title of Baron! This would be tolerably well; I assure you that I should be not a little proud of being myself styled my lady Baroness; but the present I have renounced all hopes, and think myself very happy in seeing you once more. The war with Spain is universally expected to be an endless contest; for such is the nature of its inhabitants, that they would sooner receive the emperor's brother! What barbarous those Spaniards are! What a set of cannibals!

I hate them implacably, and particularly the Spaniards. You are already apprised of the intended marriage of our emperor with an archduchess of Austria. Some think favorably of this; but the major part are of opinion that it will prove the ruin of Napoleon. It is said that the emperor already begins to be an object of alarm to the emperor; and it is confidently rumoured that Russia is on the eve of breaking with us. In will our wars have an end? Our Italian ally, who visits in the duke of Bassano's family, given me the enclosed copy of a letter to be forwarded to you, which is certainly a very singular production. It is said that the queen of Sicily will not accept the proposal of the emperor, that a new and sanguinary war is about to commence. I leave you to think with what relief I hear such tidings. Adieu, my esteemed friend. I embrace and love you with my whole heart. Your best and most faithful friend,

P. S. Mamma and papa, and the whole family, charge me with a thousand things to you. We have not yet received the letter for your pension as member of the legion of honor."

Copy of a letter from his majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. to her majesty the Queen of Sicily.

Madam and Cousin.—The events of the year 1805 interrupted our friendship and harmony. A formidable coalition against France, artfully formed in the cabinet of Mr. Pitt, and masked in an extraordinary manner, had put in motion almost my legions, that were posted on the coasts of the ocean, the Russian, German and Prussian armies. In that critical situation, my duty was to deliver France from the conflict, and to dissipate the dreadful storm, or at least to diminish its effects. This I at length accomplished, by engaging Prussia, Wirtemberg, and Bavaria, to the sense of their own interests; and by forming a treaty with king Ferdinand your majesty's spouse, which he engaged not to receive in his kingdom either Russian or English troops. In consequence hereof, my troops evacuated his states. War was declared; and scarcely had my eagles entered Vienna in triumph, when I learned that the court of Naples had violated the sacred faith of the treaty, and was admitting an army into its capital.

I instantly knew that the seductive gold of England, opportunely employed by her agents, had triumphed over the debility of king Ferdinand. The battle of Austerlitz secured to me the happy result of a war unjustly provoked; and France and her allies loudly demanded the

destruction of the dynasty of Naples which its perjury had covered with disgrace. Placed in this critical situation, and being a constitutional monarch, what resource had I left? Your majesty, who have experienced the arrogance of your subjects, knows, and I ought to know, that we sovereigns must frequently stifle our own inclinations, from a regard to the interests, and even the prejudices, of the people we govern. Thus was the fate of the house of Naples decided; and it was doomed to lose its kingdom, without any possibility on my part to prevent it! What pangs did this determination cost me! How odious in my eyes were the sceptre and crown, when I found myself compelled to a proceeding so adverse to my own sentiments! Nevertheless, I did not lose sight of the interest of a misled and disgraced dynasty; and when it became impossible for me to re-establish it in Italy, I thought of giving it an equivalent elsewhere. The propositions which I made from Erfurth to king George leave no doubt as to this fact. To the war of Germany, notwithstanding the pacific overtures by Lord Lauderdale, and the announced voyage of the Russian messenger Novoziltzoff, immediately succeeded that of Prussia, whose sovereign would not agree to the moderate proposals which I made him. Instigated and blinded by Russia, and the insinuations and promises of England, he, in a manner, presumed to dictate the law to me, when his situation was such as should have rather prepared him to receive it. A few days sufficed to convince him of his error; and notwithstanding his misconduct, my moderation left him in possession of half his states. The peace of Tilsit once more tranquilized Europe; and I should have put an end to the calamities of war had I not been convinced of the bad faith of the house of Spain, which, though my ally, merely hesitated to declare against me, in consequence of being confounded by the victory of Jena. The scandalous quarrels between the Father and Son, the ambition and sordid conduct of the Prince of Peace, and the wish of rendering happy, and divesting of its prejudices, a nation of the first rank, made me turn my views upon that kingdom. The Spaniards were dissatisfied with the government of King Charles, and Prince Ferdinand, held out to Europe as a traitor by his father, could not ascend a throne which, since the time of Lewis XIV. has belonged to France. On the other hand, Portugal was an English province; and the parliament of that nation having resolved upon the system of perpetual war, it was necessary to exclude their squadrons from the Continent, before they could have an opportunity of re-commencing such an enormity as their attack upon Copenhagen. Impelled by this combination of motives, I sent my troops into those kingdoms, and all the projected changes would have been effected without the least disturbance, had not the Spaniards been led astray by English monopoly, and the fanaticism of the monks. The confidence and security which I entertained upon this subject, and the ignorance of some of my generals, occasioned the petty losses I have suffered in that quarter, and which the enemies of order have celebrated in an extraordinary manner. But Europe soon saw what was to have been expected of the Spaniards and the Junta of Seville, whose measures were totally subverted in the first instance by the battles of Tudela, and subsequently by that of Ocana.

"The crown of Arragon, which retained some attachment to the house of Austria, is the only one that has opposed a regular resistance; and amidst the events that during the last two years have occurred in Spain, those alone which merit any attention are the defences of Saragossa and Gerona, which were owing more to the obstinacy and fanaticism of the monks, than to the valour and discipline of their garrisons. In short, Spain is conquered; and the English have no longer any point of support in it, except Cadiz, and a handful of insurgents headed by the traitor Romana. The forces they have in Portugal merely wait until my troops are in motion, when they will immediately embark; and I am convinced that the Portuguese army will experience a disastrous fate. How characteristic is it of commercial nations to sacrifice their allies! The hearts of the English are metallized; and they act only from the impulse of gain. With them there is neither honor nor faith, nor do they hold any obligation sacred. They have sacrificed your majesty's house, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, Austria, Prussia, and latterly, Portugal and Spain. But, at this moment, they have no friends on the continent; they have lost all their relations with it. I make this representation to your majesty, to impress you with the truth of my expressions, and the absolute necessity under which I find myself of sacrificing more dynasties. But a new order of things is about to succeed, and every thing will be remedied. France, though friendly to innovation, entertains, nevertheless, great attachment and deference for established usages and customs.

The same people who destroyed the throne did not cease until they re-established it with greater pomp and splendor than it had before; and I have found myself under the necessity of creating a novelty, to which, however, I have given a more convenient form than that of the ancient order. In like manner, Monarchical France, claims, and insists upon her rights to those crowns which she

formerly possessed, and your majesty will instantly perceive, that events may occasion a change of the Dynasty in France, but not any variation or alteration in her rights or relations. From this motive I have resolved to place the crown of Spain and Italy on the heads of brothers and relations, who, besides being Princes of my house, conceive that they have contributed to my elevation to the throne. Your majesty, who are aware that every thing is linked together by immutable laws, will perceive the necessity that has compelled me to adopt this rule. As to what concerns the alterations in the north, I assure your majesty that I have no particular interest in them. I have merely permitted them with the view of diminishing the power and influence of Russia, which, regarding the other states of Europe as continually divided, and always having different interests, like the republics of Greece in ancient times, may one day become what Macedonia was in respect to them; and the present Alexander, perhaps, subjugate more nations than he who penetrated as far as India. The prejudice of the house of Austria, which has impolitically exerted itself to sustain the rights of that of Bourbon, have hitherto made me act in opposition to my intentions, so that I have been obliged to temporize with the Czar of the Russians, whose interests are different from mine, and whose inclinations follow the impulse given them by the intrigues and parties in his court. The late war with Austria has enlightened the emperor Francis with regard to his interests; and I, who am attached to the old system of France, have proposed and obtained an alliance with one of his daughters. It is with the highest satisfaction that I announce to your majesty this stroke of my policy, which, at the same time that it will confer happiness on the greater part of Europe, will open a way for me to obtain the regard and esteem of your majesty. I am anxious that this marriage should be represented by your majesty to Europe to be what it truly is, just, equal and proper. I, who am faithful to my promises, and powerful to accomplish them, will gratefully repay your majesty for the interest which you will thus take in the tranquility of so many nations. The dynasties of Bourbon will all of them be indemnified for their losses. The princes of the house of Spain will receive their indemnification in countries which have no contact with France, and where their relations cannot be adverse to my dynasty. As to your majesty's house, I will make every possible exertion in its favor. Master of Spain and Portugal, it will not be difficult for me to take Gibraltar, and I shall then exclude the English from the Mediterranean. They will lose Malta; and in the coasts of Africa and Egypt, I shall find colonies superior to those I have lost. France from its situation needs no islands; and if your majesty consider it topographically you will observe that in reality none belong to her. In this point of view, Sicily, Sardinia, Corsica, Malta, the Ionian islands, and several of the Archipelago, will form the patrimony of your majesty's line, which, in that case, may look upon itself as the England of the Mediterranean. Let not your majesty persist in the wish to recover the states which your family formerly possessed in Italy. Imperious circumstances have compelled me to make so many variations, that it is now impossible to alter them, and the islands above enumerated are a complete equivalent. I have explained my ideas to your majesty at full length, and have spoken to you with that sincerity which become one who is on the eve of being your nephew. From henceforth, all feelings of rancour, animosity and passion should cease. I forget the injuries I have received; and your majesty ought to regard me as your relative and your ally. My cause and my interests ought to be those of your majesty, as those that belong to you shall be mine. I shall aggrandize the dominions of the house of Austria, restore her to her ancient splendor, make her mistress of the Danube, give her ports on the Black Sea, and in short, a navy, which shall command the whole of that sea, and whose flag will be respected in the Archipelago.

"I will assist her in her quarrels with Russia; and the princes, the brothers of the emperor Francis, shall reign over countries which that power has usurped ever since the time of Peter the Great. In recompence for all this, I require only the friendship, the good will of your majesty. Upon this depends the happiness of more than an hundred millions of souls; and I, who am interested in the welfare of so many nations, pray and supplicate your majesty to second my intentions. Let not prejudices, erroneous views of interest, and above all, the seductive artifices of the English, cause your majesty to lose so favorable a conjuncture.

"Let your majesty, availing yourself of your natural talent and perspicuity, avoid being surprised by those who hover about your spouse.—May Europe not see herself frustrated of this basis of felicity; in consequence of which, the interests of all the dynasties being conciliated, they may fall with their whole weight upon the pirates. May the present generation, in front of whom Providence has placed us, witness the sacrifice which monarchs shall be disposed to make of their passions. This I expect of your majesty, and so I treat that he may take you into his holy and worthy keeping, &c."

Copy of an intercepted letter, addressed to Mons. Carre, Mayor of Faucherolles, at Tonniens, Department of the Upper Garonne.

Seville, April 8, 1810.

"I was extremely uneasy, my dear father, at having received no news from you. I knew not to what I should attribute your long silence. Notwithstanding the many letters I wrote to you, I received no answer, though I continually expected one. Since I left Daniel, I wrote you three letters; two from Seville, and one from Headquarters at Los Santos. This will be the fourth.

"It is not surprising that you should not have received my letters or I yours; for between the 1st of January and this day, we have had five couriers murdered. It is only within these seven or eight days that we have received any news from France; and before we could hear nothing.—Spain is a country of banditti, on account of its mountains. This race always exists, whether in peace or war, and never will be extirpated. A lieutenant-colonel of the imperial guard, who was lately coming from France, and who was appointed colonel of the 22d regiment of dragoons, was lately murdered, with a detachment, consisting of an officer and 60 men of the regiment, within six leagues of Seville. This colonel did not long enjoy his new rank; he neither saw nor reached his regiment, having been cut off within two leagues of a village, in which a squadron of it was posted. Such are the rewards one obtains in Spain. After much suffering and fatigue, life is dissolved by tortures the most cruel. They, that is the armed peasantry, have committed the most barbarous horrors; they cut off his ears, his genitals, and placed them in his mouth. All the men were treated with equal brutality. The only persons who escaped were the sergeant and the corporal. This colonel had in his possession, according to the report of one of his servants, who escaped on his master's horse, 1000 louis d'ors, besides two watches.

"Although I am but young, I do not expect to see peace established in Spain. The country will never be tranquil; there will always be hordes of banditti. They destroy us by little and little. Every day we lose men in Seville, or other places, either by musketry, or the daggers of the peasantry. In Seville a peasant will scarcely hesitate to kill in open day a soldier whom he meets alone in the street. They carry their cruelties to excess; I have proofs of it. Were it not for a patrol, which was passing through a street, where I was attacked by two peasants, I should have been murdered. We are in garrison at Seville, and have our quarters in the convents. After six o'clock in the evening we never stir out, because if the soldiers had their liberty at night they would be all cut off. If the peasantry are daring enough to kill in open day, they would have stronger motives for murdering at night. The day before yesterday a curate was shot who bribed some French soldiers, and even officers, to serve under marquis de la Romana. The clergy, it is said, are the chief sources of all this mischief.—We shall all merit our passports to heaven in this country. There are many who have already deserved them; if suffering gives any claim to them. All the soldiers must go thither straight, for they have suffered dreadfully in Spain, whether from fatigue or abstinence. They perform penance sometimes, but it is by compulsion. They have been often three days without bread, which in all conscience is fasting enough.—All that I wish for is to die in the field of battle, and instantly, rather than fall into the hands of these murderers, who prick us with their knives, and before they kill us subject us to the most cruel tortures. This I can speak from ocular demonstration. They murdered a soldier of the 88th regiment at Seville; he had more than thirty knife wounds from the head to the belly. The soldier being overtaken in liquor, they all fell on him in open day, and stabbed him with their large knives in the manner I have described.

"Seville is a large city; its environs are very pleasant. Fountains, walks, magnificent gardens, orange trees, loaded with fruit, every thing wears a smiling aspect there but the inhabitants. These are cringing, hypocritical, viewing us askance with one eye, and threatening us with the other. There is no winter here; but a perpetual spring. It is as warm here in the month of January as it is in France in the month of June. Swallows are common in February. Bread is very dear; three pounds for seven pence halfpenny.—A bottle of wine costs ten pence; other articles bear a proportionate price.

"At this moment the troops are badly off. We receive nothing from France, no clothing, no shoes, no shirts.—The soldier is obliged to clothe and subsist himself. Since I have been at Seville I have worn out two pair of shoes. But if shoes were to be distributed I should not be obliged to purchase any. When I have no money, I am obliged to wash my own linen; you may judge from this how well off we are. If one is not careful to change his linen often, he is eaten up by vermin. Many of the soldiers have died of this malady. Many die of grief at their wretched condition. Money does a great deal here. It creates officers. When the colonel of a regiment sees a non-commissioned officer more cleanly in his appearance than the rest, he becomes atten-