



AND

"Ours are the Plans of fair delightful Peace,
"Unwar'd by Party Rage to live like Brothers."

VOL. I.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1800.

No. 15.

FRANCE.

field of battle with dead. A famous combat, which does much honour to French sang-froid.

Combat of Cana.

The 9th April, General Kleber set off from the camp of Acre: he marched to the enemy, and met him near the village of Cana: he formed himself into two squares. After having fought part of the day, each of them re-entered his own camp.

Battle of Mount Tabor.

The 11th April, the enemy passed over the right of General Kleber, and halted in the plains of Eldeston, in order to form a junction with the Naplousains.

General Kleber transported himself between the river Jordan and the enemy, turned Mount Tabor, and marched all the night of the 15th to 16th, in order to attack him in the night.

He arrived in presence of the enemy only at day-break: he formed his division in a square battalion. A croud of enemies surrounded him on all sides; he was exposed all day to cavalry attacks; but he repulsed them all with the greatest bravery.

The division of Bon set off the 14th at noon, from the camp of Acre, and found itself on the 16th, at nine in the morning, at the heels of the enemy, who occupied an immense field of battle. We never before saw so much cavalry, manoeuvring, charging, and moving in all directions. We kept concealed; our cavalry carried off the enemy's camp, which was two leagues from the field of battle. There were taken more than 400 camels, and all the baggage, especially that of the Mamelukes.

The Generals Vial and Rampton, at the head of their troops, formed in square battalions, took their march in different directions, so as to form with the division of Kleber the three angles of an equilateral triangle of 2000 fathoms side way; the enemy was in the centre. Being arrived at gun-shot, we shewed ourselves: terror pervaded the enemy's ranks; in a thrice that cloud of cavaliers retired in disorder, and gained the river Jordan; the enemy gained the heights. Night saved it.

Next day I caused the villages of Genine, Hourez, and Onalm, to be burnt, to punish the Naplousains. General Kleber pursued the enemy as far as Jordan.

Combat of Saffet.

General Murat had set off the 12th April from the camp, in order to raise the siege of Saffet, and carry away the magazines of Tabarich. He beat the enemy's column, and made himself master of the baggage. Thus, that army which was announced with so much parade, as numerous, said the inhabitants, as the stars in heaven and the sands of the sea, a curious assemblage of foot and horsemen, of all colours and from all countries, repassed the Jordan with the greatest precipitation, after leaving an immense quantity of dead in the field of battle. If one might judge of their terror by the rapidity of their flight, never has there been any such.

Combat of Kaiffa.

The 17th March, at eight at night, we took possession of Kaiffa: an English fleet was at anchor in the road.

Four pieces of besieging artillery, which I had caused to be embarked at Alexandria, on four transports, were taken off Kaiffa by the English.

Several boats loaded with bombs and provisions, escaped and landed at Kaiffa: the English attempted to carry them off, but were repulsed by General Lambert, who killed or wounded 100 men, made 30 prisoners, and seized a large shallop, with a carronade, a 26-pounder.

It only remained for us to put our field equipage in order of battle before Acre. We attacked in breach a tower which was the most projecting part of the town; the mine failed, the counter-scarp did not fly. Citizen Mailley, who went to reconnoitre the effect of the mine, was killed.

You will see by the journal of the siege, that on the 26th and 30th March, 7th and 15th April, the enemy made vigorous sallies, in which he was repulsed with loss by General Vial.

That on the 1st April our mines blew up the counter-scarp, but that the breach was not found practicable.

The 31st March General Murat took possession of Saffet, the ancient Bethulia. The inhabitants shew the spot where Judith killed Holofernes. The same day, General Junot took possession of Nazareth.

Combat of Nazareth.

A numerous army was marching from Damas; they passed Jordan the 6th April.

The advanced guard fought all day of the 8th against General Junot, who with 500 men of the 2d and 19th half-brigades, put it to flight, took 5 colours, and covered the

I caused a battery of twenty-four to be placed to raze the palace of Dgezzar and the principal monuments of the town: I caused a thousand bombs to be thrown in, which in so compact a place must do considerable hurt. Having reduced Acre to a heap of stones, I shall repair the defart, ready to receive the European or Turkish army, which in Messidor or Thermidor would land in Egypt. I shall send you from Cairo a relation of the victories which General Desaix has gained in Upper Egypt; he has already destroyed several armies arrived from Arabia, and has almost wholly dispersed the Mamelukes.

In these affairs, a great number of brave men are dead, at the head of them are Generals Caffarilli and Rombaud; a great number are wounded, amongst them General Rofe and Lafne.

I have had, since my passage of the defart, 500 men killed and wounded. The enemy has lost above 15,000 men.

I ask from you the grade of General of Division for General Lafne, and the grade of General of Brigade for Citizen Congis, Chief of Brigade of Artillery.

I have promoted the officers mentioned in the list which you will find annexed hereto. I shall make known to you the traits of courage which have distinguished a great number of brave men.

I have been perfectly pleased with the army. In a kind of war altogether new for Europeans, it shows that nothing can astonish true courage and military talents, and that they are not disheartened at any sort of privations. The result will be, we hope, an advantageous peace, and an increase of glory and of prosperity for the Republic.

Head-quarters, Jaffa, 27th day.

Buonaparte, General in Chief, to the Executive Directory, Citizens Directors,

I acquainted you, by the courier I sent you on the 10th May, with glorious events for the Republic, which had happened during three months in Syria, and the resolution I had formed of speedily repassing the defart, in order to be in Egypt before the month June.

The batteries of mortars of 24's, were established, as I announced to you in the course of the day of the 12th May, to raze the house of Dgezzar, and to destroy the principal monuments of Acre. They played during 72 hours, and had the desired effect. Fire was constantly in the town.

The garrison in despair, made a general sally on the 16th. General of Brigade Verdier commanded the trenches. The combat lasted three hours. The remainder of the troops which arrived on the 8th from Constantinople, and exercised after the European manner, attacked our trenches in close columns; we turned in the posts we occupied on the ramparts; by that, the batteries of field-pieces could fire at ten fathoms on the enemy with langrage. Near one half remained on the field of battle; they were then pursued to the town, with the bayonet at their heels. 18 standards were taken.

The opportunity seemed favourable to carry the town; but our spies, the deserters, and the prisoners, all agreed in the report that the plague was making dreadful havoc in the city of Acre; that every day above sixty persons died, that the symptoms were terrible; that in 30 hours the patient would be carried off amidst convulsions resembling that of rage.

Spread over the town it would have been impossible to prevent the soldier from pillage: he would have brought at night into the camp the seeds of that terrible scourge, more to be dreaded than all the armies in the world.

The army left Acre on the 22d May, and arrived in the evening at Tentour. It encamped the 22d on the ruins of Cesarea, in the middle of broken columns of marble and granite, which announce what might have been that city formerly.

We arrived at Jaffa on the 24th. For these two days past, detachments of the army are on their march towards Egypt.

I shall continue at Jaffa some days longer to blow up the fortifications; I shall afterwards go to punish some cantons for their ill conduct, and shortly after I shall cross the defart, leaving a strong garrison of Elarch. My next dispatch will be dated from Cairo.

PARIS, OCT. 28.

A number of Russians have been frozen in their retreat across the mountains of Bandsten. About the middle of the ascent of this mountain, seven and eight men in groupes were found, who had perished from the severity of the cold, and some times as many horses. It was impossible for us to go higher on account of the snows: but it is probable that thousands of dead bodies will be found in the spring, when we can ascend to the summit.

Council of Five Hundred.

Sitting of Oct. 28.

Desfrom read for the second time the resolution agreed to at the close of the secret committee, of which the following are the principal articles:

Art. 1. There shall be levied in advance provisionally, by the way of a loan on the contributions in arrear, the sum of 50 millions for the service of the 8th year.

2. The loan shall be repaid by 10 instalments for 10 months, retaining at the same time 5 millions a month on the contributions of the 8th year, to commence from the 22d of March ensuing.

3. The national treasury shall keep an accurate account of the receipt of the contributions in arrear, and of the sums which it shall employ in filling up the said loan of 50 millions, which shall be transmitted to the legislative body.

4. The credit granted of 30 millions for the levy of the auxiliary battalions shall be carried into effect, not only on the loan of 100 millions, but also on the funds which may accrue from the contributions in arrear.

5. Nothing in this resolution goes to affect the law of the 6th Vendemaire, which directs the application of funds to the relief of hospitals, &c.

The resolution was opposed by Delbrel, but after Desfrom's reply, it was adopted by the Council.

ARMY OF THE DANUBE.

Berne, October 12.

The following Proclamation has been issued.

Massena, General in Chief, to the Army.

Soldiers!

The Coalesced Powers had united three armies against you. Their plan was to gain possession of Helvetia, and thereby to penetrate into France.

You have destroyed their plan. You have secured the Limath; and in two days you have annihilated the army of Korakoff. You have taken all his cannon, all his baggage, and have obtained Zurich by force of arms. The enemy has lost 6000 prisoners, and three Generals wounded.

You have secured the Linth; you have completely beat the Austrian army: you have made 5000 prisoners, and taken 20 pieces of cannon. Its General in Chief has been killed on the field of battle.

The army commanded by Suwarow had advanced to Altorf. You marched against it; you vanquished it in the valley of Mutten; you have taken one standard, two pieces of cannon, and the enemy forces to make a precipitate retreat, has abandoned 600 wounded, among them are a General and several officers.

Though repulsed from Glarus, you have made 1500 prisoners, taken a standard, and killed a General. Finding their safety only in flight, the enemy fled towards the Grisons, leaving you 1500 wounded; they lost besides a great part of their artillery, and all their baggage.

Upon the Rhine, the wreck of the vanquished regiments, reinforced by the Bavarian troops and by those of Conde, attempted a fresh attack. You were there ready to receive them. On the side of Schaffhouse you have made 1500 prisoners, taken six standards, several cannon, and killed a General.

On the banks of the Rhine, from where the Aar flows to the summit of Gothard, the enemy have strewn the field of battle with slain.

Finally, you have driven the enemy from Helvetia, and by losing a portion of land which the enemy have purchased so dearly, they lost more than 30,000 men.

Soldiers! Behold the work of fifteen days. Your own country, as well as Helvetia, have decreed you civic honours.

When whole nations offer you their tribute of admiration and gratitude, it is the duty of your General to remind you that a new career of exertion and danger presents itself to you. He engages in your name that you will force your way through it with your wonted intrepidity and devotion.

MASSENA.

NAPPER TANDY.

Decree of the 9th of October.

The Executive Directory, on the report of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Considering, 1st, That the imprisonment of Citizens Napper Tandy and Blackwell, naturalized Frenchmen, and attached to the service of the Republic, as well as of Citizens Morris and Corbett, in the dungeons of Hamburg, and the subsequent delivery of them into the hands of the agents of England, is a crime against the rights of nations, a breach of the laws of humanity, and an high offence against the French Republic.

2dly, That the laws of neutrality impose upon the State that enjoys its benefits, duties which ought to be sacredly performed with reference to the principles of society and the rights of the public.

3dly, That the most imperious of those duties is to guard against any act of hostility being committed on such neutral territory, and by that means to offer to the persons of the citizens and subjects of every belligerent nation, an assured protection, and an equal asylum against every kind of violence exercised by virtue of the laws of war.

4thly, Considering that the pride and fanaticism of certain governments have kindled the flames of war, crimes against the rights of nations have increased to an alarming degree: that it is in particular the chief of an empire far removed to the North of Europe and Asia, who, without provocation on the part of the French, is made the instrument of the hatred of the English government against the French Republic, and against the liberal and philanthropic principles upon which it is founded; and that this chief indiscriminately menaces and insults every government which does not adopt his blind and unreasonable policy.

5thly, That if the course of the moral and political corruption is not checked by an appeal to every government which has not participated in such a state of degradation, and by the punishment of those who have borne part in the disgrace of such a system; in short, if these atrocities are not exposed to the public view, and to that reprobation they merit, it is to be feared, that in future the laws of war will be unrestrained, and the rights of peace without any pledge for their observance; that there will no longer exist a barrier against the progress of a general dissolution, and that Europe will rapidly return to a state of barbarism.

Finally, considering that the deference of any government to atrocious orders cannot be excused by the consideration of its weakness, particularly when that government is guilty of having placed itself in a state of dependence by its own voluntary act; and such is the case with respect to the Magistrates of Hamburg, by ordering the imprisonment of Citizens Napper Tandy, Blackwell, Morris and Corbett, and refusing to deliver them up upon official proof of their being French citizens and officers, decrees as follows:

Art. I. The crime committed by the government of Hamburg shall be denounced to every allied and neutral government by the Ministers of the Republic resident at those governments.