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### BARRUEL AMENDED.

No. XI.

In the fourteenth chapter of Numbers, we have an account of a popular discontent among the Israelites, on account of the difficulties they had to encounter in conquering the promised land. It seems that none of the Israelites, not even Moses, had any knowledge of the land of Canaan, except what was taken from a general description. In pursuance of the command of God, Moses dispatched messengers to that country, to examine it, and bring information respecting its soil, products, and the strength of the inhabitants.

The spies returned with a very favourable account of the produce of the country, and presented a sample of its grapes; but all of them, except Caleb and Joshua, were terrified with the strength of the cities, and the populousness of the country.

The report of the formidable appearance of the nations to be conquered, had a powerful effect on the fickle populace. In a fit of despair, the people, imagined, they saw giants, huge sons of Amach, to oppose their progress. And all the congregation lifted up their voice and cried, and the people wept that night. This is precisely in character. A fickle populace, not satisfied to labour for the blessings of promise, and meet with patience the ordinary difficulties of life, murmured most bitterly, because they could not enjoy the land of promise, without trouble. They expected, it seems, to be supported without labor—and to indulge themselves in ease and luxury, without the fatigue of exertion.

In the case before us we have an admirable sample of popular gratitude! Moses and Aaron had conducted them out of Egypt, where they were severely oppressed, and exposed to pestilential diseases: for it is evident from a declaration of Moses, that one motive for his wishing to quit Egypt was to avoid a plague, and settle in a more healthy climate. Had Moses been a common man, he would have for his efforts to serve the Israelites, been entitled to their everlasting gratitude.

But mark the issue. The moment the people met with the least difficulty in obtaining their object whenever they were oppressed with hunger or thirst in their journey; they murmured against Moses and Aaron. They directly charged all their calamities to their rulers, or to God Almighty. "Why hath the Lord brought us into this land to fall by the sword? Would to God we had died in Egypt or in this wilderness." Were it not better for us to return to Egypt?

This is exactly the character of man—in every situation, impatient of hardships, and disposed to murmur against their government.—Without making due allowance for the extreme difficulties that attend the management of national concerns, and the necessary disappointments that disconcert the best views and projects, the people, the sovereign people, are forever dissatisfied and ready to fall into a passion, on every occasion of difficulty; venting their rage at their rulers, and even at their God.

In modern days, the same character is displayed. The best government is a journey through the deserts of Arabia—where men must encounter hardships—wise men know this and are satisfied to make the best of their lot. But the populace are forever changing and grumbling, and seeking a "captain to lead them back to Egypt."—that is, new rulers to gratify their whims.

No. XII.

No book furnishes more correct and more numerous examples of the imperfections of man, nor more excellent displays of the human character, than the bible. Men mistake who suppose the sacred writings intended solely for religious instruction.—They contain a vast fund of political truths, which would be extremely useful, if the modern theorists were not too wise to be instructed.

The story of Abimelech in the 9th chapter of Judges is an instructive lesson. It appears that the Israelites after they settled in Palestine, were, for a long time, harassed with wars and revolts among the people whom they had dispossessed, and several times reduced to absolute subjection to their enemies. Among the nations most troublesome, were the Midianites, who maintained a predatory war on Israel, destroying the harvest, and plundering the country. The Israelites after being driven to the mountains, at last found a deliverer in Gideon, a man of low condition, but brave and indignant at his country's wrongs. This man by divine authority, assembled a handful of brave men, attacked the Midianites by surprise, put them to the rout, and delivered his country.

As soon as peace was established, his countrymen, grateful at the moment, for his services, offered to make

him their ruler, and to vest the authority over them in him, and his sons, in hereditary succession. Gideon had modesty and good sense enough to decline the offer. But mark the character of the populace—No sooner was Gideon dead, than the Israelites "turned and went a whoring after Baalim—they remembered not the Lord their God—nor showed kindness to the house of Gideon." All the services of their deliverer were forgotten!

Among a large number of children, Gideon left a natural son, called Abimelech, by a woman of Shechem. Ambitious of power, and either feeling hurt at his own degraded condition, or indignant at the ungrateful return his family had received for his father's services, he determined to exalt himself into notice and power. Like a true Jacobin, he addressed himself to his countrymen, the people of Shechem, his mother's relations—reminded them that he was of their connection, and asked them whether they chose to have one ruler, or seventy sons of Jerubbaal for rulers? With this flattery he inclined their hearts to favor his views, and thus gave him money with which he "hired vain and light persons to follow him." This after all is the way to carry Jacobin points of insurrection and disorganization—flattery and money well distributed, to hire vile, desperate unprincipled men.

No sooner was the Demagogue, Abimelech, furnished with support from a desperate faction, than he murdered all his brethren but one, who fled and hid himself.—And let it be noted that the seventy sons of Gideon who were murdered, were legitimate; lawful heirs. And this is in character—in all similar schemes of revolution, the lawful possessors of power and property are sacrificed to daring usurpers. Abimelech was, by his faction, declared king.

Jotham, the surviving brother, uttered a parable on this occasion, in which he announces that this ungrateful and villainous proceeding would end in the total destruction of the faction. "Let fire come out of the bramble and devour the cedars of Lebanon." Such was the fate of the Junco. Abimelech had reigned only three years, when a spirit of jealousy arose between him and his adherents. "The men of Shechem dealt treacherously with Abimelech—they lay in wait on the hills and robbed his people;" thus punishing him for his ambition and cruelty.

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LONDON, October 22,

Yesterday arrived the only remaining mail due from Hamburg. Overwhelmed as we have lately been with the magnitude and multiplicity of the subjects which have come under notice from this quarter and from Paris, we are happy in the early arrival of this mail, which enables us to contradict some of the impositions of the French Government, and to justify the opinions we have lately submitted to our readers, upon the veracity of their official communications.

In our paper of yesterday, we have seen that the French admitted their telegraphic account of the victory over Marshal Suwarow to have been a fabrication. They do not state, however, that it was a fabrication of the Directory, and published in their official paper, the Redacteur. While one journal pretends that the joyful news originated in a bad translation of the telegraph, the Directorial Gazette asserts that an imposition had been practised upon their printer, and that the fabricated telegraphic account had been received, without suspicion of forgery, at the office! The confidential paper of the French government, however, did not find out the mistake the next morning; the ministers did not undeceive it, nor is it declared by whom it was deceived. Notwithstanding this recent imposition, new telegraphs arrive; but this time they are authentic. Whoever sent the first to the Redacteur, the Directory sent these to the Councils. If there should be any fraud this time, it is no longer an anonymous crime; but the crime of Barras and his associates. It is worth while, therefore, to enquire with a little nicety and exactness into the truth and accuracy of these authenticated relations, and this unexceptionable authority.

The first witness we shall call to impeach this high testimony shall be Gen. Massena, than whom no one is more conversant in the whole craft and mystery of telegraphs. He is at variance, however, with the present series, and disproves them fully in his letter to the Directory of the 9th inst. which we extracted yesterday from the Moniteur of the 15th. The telegraphic dispatch from Massena, countersigned by one of the Directors, and read in the Council of Five Hundred on the 10th inst. says,— "I have completely defeated Suwarow." Massena, in his official letter, dated but one day earlier from Zurich, says,— "The impossibility of deploying my forces, &c. determined me to leave to Suwarow the liberty of entering Schwitz by Esfelden. I hoped, &c. but desirous of avoiding a general action, he threw himself into the Grisons, &c."

We shall next call for the evidence of the Archduke Charles, whose report is as follows:

"Head-Quarters, Donaueschingen, Oct. 7.  
"The unfortunate occurrences in Switzerland being already sufficiently known, I shall confine myself at present, merely to giving the outlines of them, and state the events which have taken place since.

"On the 25th ult. the Russian corps, under the command of Lieutenant Gen. Korsakow, on the Linth, and the column of Field Marshal Lieut. Hotze, on the Linth near Uznach, were defeated by the enemy. The former corps retreated by the way of Englisau, on the right bank of the Rhine, and the column of Field Marshal Lieut. Hotze, on the 26th by St. Gall, into the district of the Voralberg.

"Field Marshal Prince Suwarow was at Uferin, and Gen. Auffenberg at Steig on the 25th.

"On the 26th Field Marshal Lieut. Lincken defeated the enemy, and took prisoners, two battalions of 1300 men, with the whole of the staff and other officers, and two stand of colours. On the 28th he advanced to Glaris; but not being able to open a communication, either to the right or to the left, he saw himself under the necessity to withdraw to the Grison country on the 29th.

"Field Marshal Suwarow, and the brigade of Gen. Auffenberg, having advanced as far as Schwitz, on the 28th, arrived at Glaris on the 1st Oct. but not being able to effect a junction with any other corps, Field Marshal Suwarow was obliged to march to the Grison country.

"Field Marshal Suwarow has, however, according to a circular letter which has been received this morning, defeated the enemy near Glaris, and taken 1000 prisoners. At the same time, the column of the Imperial Russian Gen. Rosenberg made 1000 of the enemy prisoners near Mutten, and took several pieces of cannon; the enemy's loss in killed and wounded, on this occasion, was likewise very considerable.

(Signed)

"CHARLES, F. M."

From the letter of Massena, therefore, we disprove the telegraph; and from the Archduke's dispatches we disprove both the one and the other, excepting in one point of their concurrence, namely, the retreat of Suwarow into the Grisons. Confidently as we have predicted this event, in the case that he should be attacked previously to his co-operation with the army of Prince Charles and Gen. Korsakow, we have a double satisfaction in finding it take place, with the addition of important successes obtained by the Field Marshal wherever any part of his army has been forced to engage. We may conclude this retreat to have been the reverse of the retrograde victories of Massena, who conquers so often only to retreat. Suwarow, notwithstanding the necessity of retreating, has known how to conquer in effecting it.

We continue to think the position of Massena, tho' for a moment superior, to be hazardous in the extreme. There is no doubt, from the concurrent testimony of Col. Ramsay and the whole of the German accounts, official and private, that the loss of the French greatly exceeds that of the Allies in the whole series of these bloody contests. We have no doubt that the loss of ground will be quickly recovered. Had not treachery interrupted the views of the confederates, the French would have been surrounded on the 28th of Sept. Suwarow would have marched for the Southward, and turned their right wing upon the Aar, where he would have met the Archduke, who was to have crossed the Rhine between Balle and Schaffhausen, while Hotze and Korsakow confined or attacked him on the West. Whoever looks at the charts of these Cantons and considers the position of the armies, will see that the address and ability of Massena are more likely to have retarded, than to have defeated the design, which may still be effected with some variations in the locality of its execution. We do not observe in the French Journals the least mention of the disadvantage they have sustained in Piedmont nor any notice of the defeat of Championet, and the storming of Suza and Pignerol.

At Paris, an extravagant joy is to be discovered; amongst the causes of which there appears to be none real, except the return of Buonaparte, who has finished by deserting the Army he has so often betrayed, and so nearly exterminated. Though there be no new cause for all this exultation, there is a strong motive for affecting to feel it. It will be discovered in the Council of Five Hundred. The Directory have addressed a message to this body, stating the deplorable state of these finances, and a deficit of 150 millions. It is to fill up this chasm, that new measures of severity and privation must be invented and made legal. It is victory alone beyond the frontier which can strengthen the hand of Government or depress the spirit of the people at home, to the point required; and even those victo-