

John Fernis Philadelphia

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By the brig *Betsy*, Taylor, arrived at Boston, from Bristol (England) we have the following important intelligence.

### Conspiracy at PARIS.

COUNCIL OF FIVE HUNDRED, May 10.  
A message from the directory informed the Council of the discovery of a new conspiracy.

Citizens Legislators.—A horrible plot was intended to be executed to-morrow at day-break. Its object was to overturn the French constitution, to murder the legislative body, all the members of the government, the officers composing the staff of the army of the interior, and the constituted authorities at Paris. That great commune was to be delivered up to a general pillage and the most horrid massacre.

The executive directory, informed of the place where the chiefs of this terrible conspiracy were assembled, and where they held their committee of revolt, gave orders for their apprehension. Several of them have been taken up, and it is with pain that we apprise you, that among them was found one of our colleagues, citizen Drouet, taken in the very act of conspiracy.

The executive directory calls upon you, citizens legislators, to have the goodness to point out the plan of conduct it ought to follow on this occasion. If you judge that the directory ought to put seals on Drouet's papers, it prays you to declare your intention on that point.

(Signed) "CARNOT, President

Treillard demanded that the Council should, by a resolution, authorize the putting of seals on Drouet's papers.

Determont observed, that this mode of procedure would be too slow. Imperious circumstances command that this measure should be instantly executed. He demanded, therefore, that the Council should pass to the order of the day on this ground, that the mandate of arrest justified in itself the placing of seals on the papers. Adopted.

One of the secretaries then read another message from the directory.

"It cannot be dissimulated that the commune of Paris is the resort of all the immoral beings of the republic. A swarm of dismissed functionaries, and of disbanded soldiers flock to it, and the laws are insufficient to reach them. The directory demands of the legislative body a law, enacting that every ex-conventionalist, every dismissed functionary every soldier not employed, every person convicted of emigration, and every individual not born in France, unless he be attached to the diplomatic body, shall be obliged to quit Paris in three days, and to withdraw himself ten leagues from thence on penalty of transportation. The accused to be tried according to the form prescribed by the law of the 27th Germinal.

A commission, composed of Treillard, Mathieu, Camus, Cambaceres, and Madier, was charged to present as speedily as possible a plan of a resolution on that head.

After an hour's suspension, that is to say, at five o'clock, the sitting began.

Camus, the reporter of the commission, charged to examine the message of the directory, declared the urgency of adopting the proposed measure, to defeat the plot which was ready to explode, and to disperse the ringleaders of the anarchists, become more daring than ever. "Miscreants," said he, "covered with blood and rapine, conspire together. They wish to seize again on the victims who have escaped their rage. The accomplices of Robespierre declare themselves in open war against the constitution and against the magistrates, who are resolved to maintain it. Let us hasten to put ourselves in a state of defence. The message of the directory has shewn you all the extent of the danger. Let us furnish it with the means of preventing the explosion."

Camus now read a plan, tending to expel from Paris, within three days, and to drive at least ten leagues from thence, all the ex-conventionalists not re-elected, and not invested with public functions all the public functionaries dismissed since the 9th Thermidor; all the generals or soldiers dismissed or disbanded; all those to whom amnesties were granted for the crimes of 4th Brumaire; all those who were apprehended or in accusation, or condemned, or who owe their liberty entirely to that amnesty; all foreigners not settled in France prior to 1789, and who are not attached to the ministers of the neutral or allied powers now in Paris; and all those convicted of emigration; whose names have not been definitely erased from the lists. Those who shall be found in Paris, or within the distance of ten leagues, after the time pointed out, shall be sentenced to transportation, the directory being at the same time authorized to retain those whose presence it may think necessary for the public service."

The urgency was decreed, and the plan put to vote, article by article.

### PARIS, May 11.

Before the passing over of a fortnight, a second conspiracy has been formed by terrorism, notwithstanding its existence has been obstinately denied by the halt accomplices and hireling writers, who have endeavoured to change its complexion, to prevent its being recognized, and to thwart the efficacious measures it was necessary to adopt against their detestable accomplices. Great praise is due to the directory, clear sighted, notwithstanding the greater part of those by whom it is surrounded seem to be paid to mislead its members, it has held out to public indignation, it has courageously brought forward to notice the most dangerous enemies of France—these eternal enemies of the good citizens, those who are in a permanent conspiracy against every established government, because disorder is their element, pillage their hope, and massacre their means and their pleasures.

We shall now content ourselves with adding a few details, in addition to the particulars already given in the proceedings of the council, relative to the new conspiracy from which we are just extricated. Its aim was to overthrow the constitution of 1795. The conspirators spoke of re-establishing the anarchical code of 1793, but they would soon have done what they have already twice succeeded in doing. Their cherished constitution would have been placed among the sacred archives, and we should soon have had a second edition of revolutionary tyranny. The convention would have been recreated, and the deputies not re-elected, would have taken the place of the new third. In consequence, almost all of the seventy-three of those out-lawed, and all those of the other deputies distinguished by their probity, their energy, and their detestation of the anarchists, together with the members of the directory, several ministers, and the commanders of the armed force were to have been apprehended this morning, and afterwards butchered.—Ten men were for this purpose to have proceeded to each of their houses; a part of the gunners had been brought over, and it is said that the conspirators had at their command thirty field-pieces. At day break the barriers were to have been shut, the apprehensions were to take place, and the tocsin sounded. The plunder of all the houses was to have been permitted, on pretext of supplying the wants of the people. The conspirators did our brethren in arms the injustice to think that the temptation of this plunder would have attached them to their cause.

The plot was denounced to the directory by some of the conspirators themselves, who appeared to tremble at the moment of the approach for its execution. The directory immediately brought up the armed force, which surrounded the committee of revolt; at the head of this committee was Drouet, a member of the Council of Five Hundred. He had with him sixty of the principal terrorists when his house was surrounded. Several of his colleagues flates, that since his return from Austria, they have heard him openly speak of overthrowing the constitution and the directory. Prior to his detention in the prisons of Germany, he was one of the most furious mountaineers. On the 31st of May, he played a very distinguished part—he was more especially desirous, he said, to revenge the death of Romme, Soubrany, Bouchotte, & other mountaineers executed last year, for having been implicated in the revolt of the 1st Prairial.

The history, and the papers which prove the conspiracy, will without doubt be published by the directory. Thirty-five of the principal conspirators are apprehended. Babeuf's interrogatory is particularly interesting. We are assured that his confessions are very important, and well calculated to throw a light on this horrible plot. He was taken ill at the minister's house, but was recovered by a glass of water. Among those apprehended, we have collected the following names: Babeuf, editor of the *Tribune of the people*; Laiguellet, ex-conventionalist, who was apprehended last year as an accomplice of the insurrection of 1st Prairial; Ricors, ex-conventionalist, companion of Robespierre the younger in his mission at Toulon, also apprehended on the 1st Prairial; Charles, ex-conventionalist, formerly imprisoned in the Chateau of Ham; Dardes, Bouchotte's secretary; the secretary of Joseph Lebon; Germain, commissioner of the directory at Versailles; Rossignol, ex-general in La Vendee; and Antonnelle, a writer in the *Journals des Hommes Libres*.

Four hundred thousand livres in specie had been expended in maturing the conspiracy. We are assured that the agents of the present ministers of po-

lice received 200,000 livres of this money, which they have faithfully deposited in the office of police. Several proofs are established that the assassins of the Lyon's Courier, who are apprehended, were sent on that business by the conspirators. They killed him for the purpose of getting into their hands considerable sums of specie he had about him, with which they were to pay their partizans.

A very numerous force has been on foot in this capital since yesterday morning; and guns are placed at the principal gates and round the two councils. The utmost tranquillity prevails in consequence of the vigilance of the armed force and police. The conspirators and their partizans are confounded and abashed. Several of them have fled. Among these are Vadier and Amar. Enquires are making on all sides who were, and who were not concerned in the plot. Those who three days ago pronounced boldly against the constitution of 1795, and as boldly in favour of that of 1793, have now a real passion for the first, and curle the second bitterly. If efficacious steps, however, are not taken to dismiss public employments, the men who are a scandal to them, the anarchists will, in the course of a fortnight, be as daring as ever, will deny the existence of the conspiracy, and will accuse the directory of having deviled it to cut off the last remains of the patriots.

The interrogatories of the conspirators are now taking. It is said, that besides Drouet, another deputy, known to have been a great friend of Marat, is implicated in the trials of the Septemberizers began yesterday. It was a motion to snatch them from the death which awaits them.

At Drouet's house was found a proclamation, in which the conspirators announced to the people the constitution of 1793. To this paper was annexed a seal, with the words "public safety."

Three waggons filled with conspirators have proceeded to Fletis.

May 12 Paris is still tranquil. Three hundred thousand copies of an address, destined by the conspirators for the departments and the armies, have been seized. The following is the only paper which has as yet been officially given to the public on the subject of the conspiracy.

The Executive Directory to the citizens of Paris, at 11 Floreal, fourth year.

"Citizens, a terrible plot was to have exploded this night, or to-morrow morning at day break. A horde of robbers and assassins had formed the plan of assassinating the legislative body, all the members of the government, the staff of the army of the interior, and all the constituted bodies in Paris. The proclamation of the conspirators was to be the signal of a general pillage in Paris, as well of the houses, as of the magazines and shops, and the massacre of a great number of citizens was to take place at the same time.

"But be comforted, good citizens, the government watches: it knows the ringleaders of the conspirators and their means.

"The simple publicity which the executive directory gives to their plans, will without doubt suffice to prevent any movement on their part. But, in every case, be tranquil, and pursue your ordinary avocations. Abandon the Brigands to themselves: the government has taken certain measures to defeat their plots, and to deliver up them and their partizans to the vengeance of the laws.

(Signed) CARNOT, President.

### LONDON, May 14.

The French having stipulated with the king of Sardinia for the passage of the Po at Valenza, enables them to penetrate into the Milanese by Pavia.

Tortona, one of the fortresses in Italy, of which the French troops are now in possession, is the key to the Milanese, which it is feared, the enemy have by this time completely over run.

An American house in the city has stopped payment for a very large sum, in consequence of speculations in corn and rice from America, which have turned out unfavourable.—Their deficiency is stated at 150,000 l.

May 17. French papers state, that hostilities had not, according to their latest advice, recommenced on the Rhine, though the preparations for such an event were carried on with great activity. On the contrary, a report prevails at Paris that the negotiations for peace had been resumed between the Emperor and the French. Such an event is extremely probable, for there hardly seems any other means left to him to save his dominions in Italy, which to him are of much greater importance than the Netherlands.

Sailed the Dolly armed cutter, of 8 guns, A. Warson, master, with the captain of La Virginie, who is to be exchanged for Sir Sydney Smith.

The master of the American ship Sally, arrived in