

John Fenno

THE NORTH-CAROLINA MINERVA,

AND

FAYETTEVILLE ADVERTISER.

FAYETTEVILLE.—PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY HODGE AND BOYLAN.

Vol. I. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1796. NUMB. 25.

PARIS, June 17.

Peace draws near in spite of the gold and the intrigues of the British cabinet, in spite of the efforts of some of our factitious citizens, who, finding their account in the war, and the enormous expence which it occasions, wish to render it perpetual, and by that means complete the general ruin. We have every reason to believe, that the Directory will suffer no opportunity to escape of meriting the title of benefactors of Europe, by concluding, as soon as possible, with all the continental powers, at least a peace worthy of the new fortunes of the republic. We will even venture to affirm, that a general peace will take place on the continent before the expiration of a month.

There was a strong report at Manheim on the 7th, that orders had arrived from Vienna to desist from all offensive operations on the left bank of the Rhine, and which had determined the return of Wurmsfer to the environs of Manheim.

Letters from Bastia state, that the Corsican insurgents have just obtained possession of Bastia, where they have made Sir Gilbert Elliot, the viceroy, a prisoner. This news needs confirmation.

We are assured that Buonaparte has promised to return to Paris by the way of Vienna, provided the emperor should not conclude a peace. If he continues his route, general Kleber will soon be able to shake hands with him.

The frigate Republicaine, capt. Bozee, and the corvette La Subtil, capt. Vandezande, returned to Flushing on the 8th inst. having taken in a cruise of two decades 15 English vessels, of which 6 were sunk. Among this number was an armed cutter, which carried dispatches from the English government. About 200 prisoners are made from those vessels.

June 10. M. de Stael will quit Paris in a few days. He had received orders from his court to present to the directory M. Rehaufen, in quality of Swedish charge d'affaires. The directory has refused to receive this new envoy. It is said on this occasion, that the directory did not wish to spare Russia the appointment of her secret agents, by acknowledging one of her public agents.

The king of Spain has prohibited, by a royal schedule, all the tribunals, even that of the Inquisition, from molesting the French in their worship. He has, however, declared, in the same schedule, that those alone will be acknowledged as Frenchmen, who are recognized by the ambassador of the republic. The latter, on his side, has notified to all the French who reside in Spain, that they are to enjoy the privilege granted by the royal schedule, only so long as they shall be decorated with the token of French liberty.

The frigate La Vengeance, belonging to the last division dispatched from Breff for St. Domingo, has captured the ship Edgar, from Liverpool, bound to Africa. This vessel was burnt, and her crew put on board the corvette Athalante. The latter has taken and sunk the brig Indultry, and the Hudson, capt. Webster, laden with flour.

It appears by a letter from Augsburgh of the 2d inst. that the Grisons informed the Austrian government of the project of the French troops, to march through the Valteline, adding, that it was not in their power to prevent this march, and that the said government must therefore adopt such measures, as it should think necessary to frustrate that project. In consequence of this intimation, the Austrian troops who arrived in the environs of Inspruck, as well as the armed inhabitants of Tyrol, have received orders to occupy the two passes, which lead into the Brigaw, and it is supposed, that they will be defended with the utmost vigour.

The minister of marine has officially contradicted the report of a plot having been formed at Toulon, to surrender that port to the English.

Expediton against LEGHORN.

The march of the French troops against Leghorn, to take possession of the English property deposited there, was fixed for the 14th of May. The body of men destined for that service amounted to five or six thousand, under the command of gen. Massena. This officer has the strictest orders to conduct himself with the greatest moderation in the Tuscan territory, to respect property, to pay in ready money for all that his soldiers may use, and to spare every thing but the English wealth deposited at Leghorn. The French justify this apparent violation of a neutral territory, as a just reprisal for the seizure of a French vessel by the English in the harbour of Leghorn, without any resistance on the part of the Tuscan government, and for the partiality with which the grand Duke has permitted the English merchants to make Leghorn the great depot for their Mediterranean trade. Whatever may be the justice or

suspicious of these complaints, the French will probably be successful in their plan for giving a dangerous wound to the British Mediterranean commerce, as there is no force in Tuscany which can make any show of resistance.

They flatter themselves in Italy, that the territories of the Pope will be regarded as neutral.—Letters from Venice, however, announce that several French privateers have appeared in the Adriatic, which capture the Roman and Neapolitan vessels. This leaves not a doubt of the intentions of the republic, with respect to the Pope. Moreover the late proclamation of general Buonaparte to his army, clearly announces the design to enter Rome, and to operate there a change of system.

SCHWALBACH, June 9.

Particular detail of the battles of the 5th, 6th, and 7th, between the Imperial and French armies of the Sambre and Maese, and the Rhine and Moselle.

Battle of ALTENKIRCHEN.

On the 5th, at break of day, gen. Collaud attacked the entrenched camp of the Austrians, near Altenkirchen. After an engagement of four hours, as bloody as obstinate, victory was uncertain. Gen. Collaud, equally irritated at the loss of his troops and the resistance of the enemy, ordered the charge to be beaten. The grenadiers then advanced with fixed bayonets, and the camp was forced.

The fruits of this victory are, 3,700 prisoners, 5 pair of colours, 9 pieces of cannon, a great number of waggons, and two general officers, one of whom is dangerously wounded. The number killed on both sides, is estimated at 1,500.

Battle near Birchenfel and Oberstein.

It was gen. Merceau's division that was ordered to attack the left wing of the Austrians on all points. After several bloody engagements, in which both parties lost a great number of men, the Austrians fell back. The French advanced by forced marches. In the interval, gen. Championnet attacked the Austrians at Stromberg and its environs, with so much impetuosity, that they were forced to fly to Bingen, whither he followed them, and took a position on the heights.

At the same time gen. Bernadetta drove them from the Nahe, which river his army passed near Bingen, and took an advantageous position. Another engagement happened on the Glan.

Battles of Nieder-Lahnstein, Pöstendorf and Hochheim.

Notwithstanding the advantageous position of the Austrians at these different points, generals Grenier and Bonnard attacked and surrounded them, and made 5,000 prisoners, besides taking 23 pieces of cannon, and a number of waggons.

On the afternoon of the 5th, gen. Kleber ordered the fortrefs of Ehrenbreitstein to be blockaded.

On the following day several strong columns passed the Lahn; the first are now at Nallelin and Selters, ten leagues from Franckfort, and eleven from Mayence.

The archduke Charles, astonished at the rapid successes of general Kleber in the environs of the forests of Westerwald, and the other side of the Lahn, and wishing to oppose the French armies with more considerable forces, caused his army to retire from the Hundsruck, and desile by Mayence, in order to protect the right bank of the Rhine, as well as the Mayn, in concert with gen. Wurmsfer; but gen. Jourdan defeated these designs, by passing the Rhine with his principal forces in the environs of Andernach, Coblenz, and Nieuwied. His headquarters are at the last mentioned place.

WURGENS, June 12.

The actions of the 9th and 10th which were fought near Neustadt and Kayerslautern, by the armies under Wurmsfer and Moreau, were more bloody than all the preceding; the loss was considerable on both sides, but the republicans had ultimately the advantage; they drove the Austrians from all their positions, and took possession of the towns of Durkheim, Kayerslautern, Frankental, and Grunfladt: they continue to advance to invest the fort of the Rhine, opposite Manheim.

MILAN, May 18.

The inhabitants of this city assembled on the square in front of the Cathedral, to hear the patriotic speeches of several orators. The music of Milan played the cherished tunes of liberty; Ca Ira, the Marseilloise and the Carmagnole. The people afterwards swore either to live free or die; hatred to royalty, &c.

I was this morning in the popular society. Discourses breathing a great deal of patriotism were pronounced here; they denounced a libel, which was said to have been published by the monks and

the nobles with a view to deceive the people. In another society they said that the Archduke who had thought fit to run away, had sent word that the Emperor had made peace with the French, and that he would soon return to bring all those to reason who had dreamed of declaring themselves a free people. All this does not discourage the patriots of Milan; on the contrary, it renders them still more vigilant. I feel inclined to hope, that they will succeed in their generous undertaking, and that the satellites of despots will do best to make a journey to Germany.

LONDON, June 7.

Although the rapidity with which the French have improved their advantages in Italy, be truly alarming, and those advantages themselves truly formidable; yet to those who have read the history of the wars waged by the French kings, Charles the VIII. and Louis the XII. in Italy, they will afford no ground for despair.

The Alps, like the Rhine, have never yet been repassed by the French, without a diminution of force, greatly more than equivalent to any advantage obtained by the passage. Whether the establishment of a republic in the Milanese, and the diffusion of its mad principles of Democracy, in which they seem to be busily employed, will make the modern French more successful than their ancestors, remains to be proved.

The attempt to murder Sir Alan Gardner, on Friday night, is another proof of the great respect which the Jacobin party entertain for the freedom of election.

The Sun, a ministerial paper.

County of Berks.—At the close of the fifth and last day's poll, the number were,

Mr. Dundas,	1332
Mr. Vansittart,	1332
Mr. Loveden,	846

Citizen Hall, who lost his election at Maidstone, is the same gentleman who was examined before the Privy Council a short time ago.—The poor citizens have been most cruelly treated every where.

The persevering itinerant candidate, citizen Waddington, gave up the contest for Hertfordshire, when he found his principles did not at all take with the worthy electors.

Of all the various addresses to constituents which we have yet seen, that of Mr. Alderman Combe is the most strongly marked by folly, arrogance, and vanity; and exhibits an apt specimen of those exertions which are to be expected from the introduction of such a mind into the House of Commons.—This modest gentleman tells the livery of London, that by electing him, they have manifested to the world, an unequivocal disapprobation of the war, and a spirit friendly to parliamentary reform; in other words, that they have virtually retracted all their public declarations on the subject of the war, and been guilty of a complete dereliction of principle. Mr. Combe is vain enough to believe, that his wonderful abilities have made converts of all the citizens of London; and, in the phrenzy of his arrogance, overlooks the trifling objection arising from the re-election of three candidates, out of four, who have invariably supported the war, and vigorously opposed that line of politics, which he has thought proper to pursue. But, it is not at all surprising, that the extreme inconsistency of the livery, in returning a man, whose principles they had publicly and repeatedly reprobated, should have exposed them to the serious charge preferred against them by this civic popinjay. If they have a just regard for their own character, they will take some speedy means of convincing their new member of his error, in as public a manner as that in which he has been pleased to propagate it.

Sir Watkin Lewes had, on the score of services, by far the strongest claim to the suffrages of the city of London; and he would have had those suffrages, if the other candidates, who had sat with him in parliament, had not sacrificed the cause to a narrow and selfish policy, which induced them to look only to their own individual return, and, with that view, to solicit single votes. The four old members should have joined hands in support of the cause they all professed to espouse, and in that case the city of London would not have been represented by a Jacobin.

Lord HOLLAND and Lord WYCOMBE.

These are two young men, of whom the community need not be ashamed, of whom they may expect useful service, unimpaird by any disparaging qualities, too frequently the lot of hereditary wealth and station. We believe and expect that they will be good citizens, meritoriously active for the commonweal.

They have been much together while abroad; and they did not separate until Lord Holland was returning home.