

John Penno

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## BRUSSELS, Nov. 23.

It appears that a grand operation is now on the eve of being executed. The division of general Lefebre, amounting to 18,000 men, has effected the passage of the Rhine, and is directing its course to Andernach, to reinforce the centre of the army. In the mean time, a large division is to pass the Rhine at the bridge of Neuwied, and the army of the north, which is already on the right bank, is to attack the Austrians on the Sieg. All the preparations which are making indicate this double project. Thirty thousand rations of bread, and as many of hay and oats, are preparing at Cologne, to be sent to Mülheim. General Bournonville has arrived by post at Cologne.

## PARIS, Nov. 28.

General Baraguay d'Hilliers, the governor of Milan, writes word, that the army of Italy, after fighting for three successive days, obtained on the 16th of November, a complete victory, and took 10,000 prisoners. We expect general Buonaparte's official account of this memorable action.

The negotiations with the English government seem to take rather a more favourable turn to-day. The directory have acknowledged the principle of compensation; besides their last reply does not bear those marks of harshness and severity which characterized their former notes. This is one advantage which we owe to the publication of the correspondence. The opinion of the public was decidedly pronounced against the rude forms they had adopted in their negotiations; and our negotiator has therefore deemed it prudent to change those forms.

December 5. General Vauvois has been suspended by Buonaparte. He did not execute his orders, and thus caused part of his plan to fail.

The Russian forces under general Subow, according to letters from Poland, have been defeated in an engagement with the Persians. The former were compelled to retreat with the loss of ten thousand men.

General Pichegru is at length going as ambassador to Sweden, to compliment the new king on his accession.

If we are to trust to the letters from Italy, Mantua must be at this moment in the hands of the French.

November 20. The messenger sent to London by Lord Malmesbury is returned, and the negotiations are resumed. They have at last made a step forward; for after childishly refusing to explain himself on the principles of compensation, set forth by Lord Malmesbury, our learned Minister assumes in the most positive manner, enlightened, no doubt, by a fortnight's study, and also a little by the lessons of the writer, who proved to him that there was no impropriety in acknowledging this principle; and that it was indeed pledging ourselves to very little; because we reserved still the full power of shewing ourselves as difficult as we pleased respecting the nature and the extent of the exchanges and proportionate compensations. At least the first difficulty of formality has been done away which is certainly something, as the official diplomatic notes will shew.

If our Plenipotentiary, instead of his last insignificant answer, had returned that which he now gives, and formerly admitted, as he now does, the principle of compensation, he would have accelerated the issue of the negotiation by a fortnight, and would have not appeared to be a man who quibbles and recedes, and pretends to have already said what in fact he had not said. We might go on and ask of him a little less dryness and apery of language, but his diplomatic education cannot be perfect all at once.

By Lord Malmesbury's answer, which we do not suppose he will send to his Cabinet by a Courier, as the question addressed by the Directory must have been foreseen, we shall see, whether he will also make use of more frankness in his overtures: whether he will relinquish his perplexing and dictating course, with men who despise and cannot patiently bear the delay of formalities.

That of the two governments which, without losing itself in the labyrinth of formalities, shall announce with precision and moderation, the principal conditions upon which it wishes to negotiate, will prove the sincerity of its pacific intentions, conciliate the general opinion, and make it a terrible weapon against its enemy. It would be worthy of the Directory to set this great and fine example of loyalty and good faith.

The executive directory issued a decree on the 23d of November, the object of which is to enforce the existing orders for preventing any kind of communication between England and France.

General Hoche still presents with the same ardour, the equipment which it is believed is destined to operate a descent upon England.

## LONDON, December 1.

The following arrangements were yesterday finally settled.

The Earl of Westmoreland to be Lord Privy Seal in the room of the Earl of Chatham, appointed President of the Council.

The Earl of Chatterfield to be Master of the Horse to his Majesty, vice Lord Westmoreland.

Lord Auckland to be one of the Post-Masters-General, in the room of Lord Chatterfield.

The Duke of Roxburgh to be Groom of the Stole to his Majesty, in the room of the Marquis of Bath, deceased.

Lord Macclesfield to be a Lord of the Bed-chamber, vice the Duke of Roxburgh; and Lord Charles Somerset to be Lord Macclesfield as Comptroller of the King's Household.

Earl Howe is to have the Blue Ribbon of the Marquis of Bath.

December 5. Some letters from Lisbon, delivered out on Saturday, announce the preparations making in Portugal by sea and land, as war they find is not to be averted. Several men of war are fitting in the Tagus; and camps are about forming on the frontiers, which are to amount to 60,000 men, the prince of Brazil, it was said, takes the field with the troops.

December 6. The French papers which came to hand on Saturday, state, that the Spanish fleet in the harbour of Toulon consists of twenty two ships of the line, and ten frigates, and observe, that all they have as yet done, is to raise the blockade at Toulon.

A letter from Toulon says, that orders have been received there for the equipment of a squadron of 5 sail of the line and two frigates, supposed for Constantinople; but, on account of the absolute want of money, and all kinds of naval stores, it will be a month before it can be ready.

From Dunkirk and St. Omer's, it is stated, that a dreadful tempest, which took place on the 17th Brumaire (Nov. 7th) had spread the greatest alarm, and not a little disorder, thro' the flotilla assembled in Dunkirk road. One vessel was lost, and eleven men perished on board.

December 7. Unless peace takes place immediately, a strong reinforcement of troops are to be sent to St. Domingo. Part are to sail from Spithead, the remainder from Cork.

The Hungarians are about to raise 15 thousand cavalry, and 52 thousand infantry, for the service of the Emperor.

December 9. The conduct of the minister, in sending barely twelve hundred thousand pounds to the Emperor, without the consent of Parliament, which circumstance was disclosed in the debate of Wednesday evening, is likely to become a subject of the most serious discussion in the house of commons. It will be seen, by our report of the proceedings of last night, that some of the most respectable of Mr. Pitt's friends, feel a considerable degree of indignation at a transaction which they conceive to be fraught with the most dangerous consequence to the constitution, and subversive of the first and most important right of the commons house of parliament, as the constitutional guardian of the public purse. — If the chancellor of the exchequer is permitted to dispose of the people's money without the consent or authority of their representatives, then farewell to all those national blessings which once rendered England the envy of the world, and which constituted the honest pride of our ancestors.

A Paris paper of the 5th inst. which came to hand last night, contains the following paragraph: The English squadron have not entered, as was said, the port of Gibraltar. It still remains at the Ile of Elbe. The Spanish Squadron is on the eve of its departure from Toulon.

Admiral Lord Bridport is to proceed to sea in a few days, with a fleet of 16 sail of the line, and a proportionate number of frigates. Vice-Admiral Sir Allan Gardner goes out second in command. — The object of his lordship's cruise is said to be to intercept the fleet which is shortly expected to sail from Brest.

Advices were yesterday received at the admiralty from Admiral Jarvis. Their contents are said to relate chiefly to the evacuation of Corsica, which has been entirely completed, and to the circumstance of the Spanish fleet having arrived in the port of Toulon.

The intelligence from the army of Italy is very important. The current of victory, with concern we remark, continues its rapid course in a favoura-

ble direction to the French cause. After the defeat of the Imperial Field-Marshal Alvinzy, Buonaparte proceeded to attack the army of gen. Davidovich, which had forced the French lines that covered the blockade of Mantua and advanced as far as Castelnovo.

On the 21st ult. he came up with this division, which he so vigorously attacked, that in a short time the Austrians retreated with precipitation in every direction, and were closely pursued the whole of the night by the enemy above the Corona, and along the dike. The rear guard of the Imperialists suffered very severely. Eleven hundred prisoners, among whom was Col. Count de Khebach, four pieces of cannon, and six caissons, fell into the hands of the French. This victory is the more entitled to serious attention, as it serves to confirm Buonaparte's account of the recent defeat of gen. Alvinzy, which must have been of a very decisive nature. Indeed, to have enabled the French general to march uninterruptedly, to the attack of the other Austrian army, the co-operation of which it was the grand object of the general to obtain.

From the Rhine it is stated, that on the night of the 28th ult. a smart action took place at Kehl, the particulars of which were not known when the account was closed.

The capture of Mantua was reported at Paris on the 5th inst. but the rumour obtained no credit. Even Buonaparte's gaudy dispatch did not venture to promise the fall of that important place at so early a period.

A severe prels was going on in England for the navy.

December 10. The marquis of Bute arrived in town on Wednesday evening from the continent, and yesterday he had an interview with the secretary of state for the foreign department.

Accounts have been received in town from the Mediterranean, by the Audacious of 74 guns, capt. Gould, which state that the Spanish fleet having put to sea, had met with a violent gale of wind, in which Le Trinitade had run down a large frigate, and that the fleet had been dispersed—five sail had put into Minorca, and three into Carthagena, disabled, and the rest of the fleet remained unaccounted for.

December 12. By the last arrival from Paris we are given to understand that the future progress of the negotiation cannot be made so public as the previous steps have been. It is said that Lord Malmesbury intimated to M. de la Croix,

“That he had assurance of being authorized to propose specific terms of concession, but that his Britannic Majesty did not think that the object of the negotiation was likely to be promoted by the habit of publishing official communications on both sides, thereby exciting the passions of the public on the topics in discussion before they were maturely weighed. It was his desire, therefore, to suggest the prudence of abstaining from this practice so new in this diplomacy and to recommend that the specific terms of concession on both sides should be concealed until the propositions had undergone, at least, a fair and uninfluenced discussion.”

The answer of the Directory to the foregoing suggestion is stated to have been to the following effect:

“That they had chosen the concurrence of public discussion, that all the world might be made parties to the negotiation, and judge between the two governments; but it was the desire and taste of the English court to prefer a close deliberation; they could have no objections.”

It appears from the account by this channel, that tranquillity is at length restored to the countries that were some time since declared to be out of the king's peace. The winter, in the sister kingdom, has set in with very unusual rigour.

The whig club in Ireland, after a mature inquiry into the state of the representation of the people in parliament, have resolved, and are of opinion that, for the purpose of giving to the people there due and constitutional share in the legislature, a reform in parliament is indispensably necessary, and that the emancipation of the Roman Catholics should make a fundamental and essential part of the same; and that they consider those measures as likely to establish public satisfaction and tranquillity, and promote an union in supports of king and country.

Yesterday advices were received at the admiralty, of the loss of the Undaunted frigate, of 40 guns, which foundered in a gale of wind on the Jamaica station, but all her crew were fortunately saved.

December 16. If Kleber's expedition, with 30,000 men, was to raise the siege of Kehl, and it had not before capitulated, we may rest assured that it will remain in the hands of the French.