

THE STATE GAZETTE

OF

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INTELLIGENCE FROM PARIS,

Received by a person who was there at the time of the disturbances.—

ON the 8th of July last, the first commotion happened, on account of the removal of Mr. Neckar, by the King. That procedure gave offence to the people, who assembled at the Palace-Royal, and determined one and all, to take up arms and oppose the national troops, which were then stationed all round Paris and Versailles, to the amount of about 50 or 60,000, with a design to starve the people if they made any resistance. The people armed themselves, and chose the Marquis de la Fayette their Commander in Chief, who cheerfully accepted the appointment: The Duc de Orleans also joined the people. A troop of horse was sent into Paris to demand the meaning of their assembling; but finding the people in arms, they immediately retired, except one, who was taken. After this, numbers of the troops joined the people, and also three troops of the King's own guards.

On the 9th, the people appeared under arms, with white and green cockades in their hats, and would suffer no one to pass, unless he wore a similar badge of distinction. The nobles had spies in the city collecting arms, several coaches with arms were taken, and the spies put to death. They then proceeded to disarm the invalids, and took all their artillery and small arms. Thence they went to the Hotel de la Ville, where the ancient arms were deposited, which they also took.

On the 10th, being all armed, but not well supplied with ammunition, they went to the Bastille, and demanded ammunition from the Governor, who said he would give them plenty if they would come in. A considerable body went in; after they passed the bridge, he ordered it to be taken up, and the troops to fire on the people, by which a few were killed.—The people, however, got the better, let down the bridge again, vast numbers crowded in, overpowered the troops, seized the arms and ammunition, hung several of the soldiers, released all the prisoners, some of whom had been confined there upwards of thirty years, took them in carriages to the Palace-Royal, cut off the head of the Governor, and exhibited it at the Palace-Royal. They kept possession of the Bastille. In the evening accounts of those transactions reached the Royal Family, at Versailles; but they did not acquaint the King of it till after he had supped, at which, it is said, he was much enraged. The next day he went to Paris, where he was received by the people, under arms.—A number of Deputies accompanied him, in order to pacify the people. He went to the head-quarters of the Marquis de la Fayette, where he was presented with a cockade, such as they wore, which he accepted.—The people insisted that the troops should be ordered away, and that there should be no more guards placed round the city, which was complied with. They then demanded of him to send for Mr. Neckar, which he said he would also do. A number of papers were presented to him to sign, and he affixed his Royal Signature to them all. He was then conducted out of the city, amidst the acclamations of the people, who exclaimed from all quarters, "Vive le Roy," and fired a feu de joye from the Bastille. The people clubbed their arms, but still patrolled the town. Every thing remained quiet until the 21st, when they took up the determination to destroy the Bastille, which they did without any kind of interruption.

Mr. Foulon, who superseded Mr. Neckar in the department of finance, on account of his enmity, to the cause of the people, was con-

signed to the gallows. The determination having circulated abroad, a report was spread that he was dead, and a coffin was buried to deceive the people. He flew to his seat about 5 leagues from Paris, but was informed of by one of his tenants; the people went to his house, seized and carried him to their Head-Quarters, at the Hotel de la Ville, and in the presence of the Marquis Fayette, beheaded him; his body was dragged through the streets of Paris, and his head, with hay in the mouth, carried on a pitch-fork to the Palace Royal. The reason of this treatment was, for his accepting the place of Mr. Neckar, and forestalling the grain, and declaring the people should eat grass until the bread rose to twenty sous a pound. In this situation affairs remained, when our informant left Paris, which was on the 23d of July.

The following is a copy of a Hand-Bill which was published and distributed through the city of Paris on that day.

The BUNDLE of HAY: or, the DEATH of Monsieur FOULON.

BE not afraid, ye people of Paris, to have M. Foulon for your minister of finance, for a period is put to his existence!

After having resigned his commission of the Intendant of the finances of the war department, to which he had been nominated at the dismissal of Mr. Neckar, he retired to his seat at 5 leagues distance from Paris. He was not well-beloved; for the people accused him not only of engrossing the harvest of the present year, but of endeavouring to forestal the harvests of the next, and three succeeding years.

Bread being exceedingly dear in his district, as well as every where else, the unfortunate peasants asked their Lord for bread! It is said that he replied, "Eat grass, you villains, if you have no bread!" This report, true or false, being spread around the country, the people, with one consent, seized M. Foulon, and in a disgraceful manner and vehicle, carried him to Paris, with a bundle of hay on his back, and a handful of nettles upon his bosom. They conducted him to the Hotel de la Ville. The people of Paris being informed of his arrival, and full of resentment, at his long and premeditated enmity to them, assembled, in vast crowds, at the Grève,† and demanded M. Foulon: They were answered that he was going to be tried, but the people fearing left the trial should be too dilatory, redoubled their cries, and insisted on his being delivered to them. This being refused, they forced the surrounding guards and fell on the town-house. Neither the entreaties of the Marquis de la Fayette, who threatened to resign his appointment of their General, since the people had no longer any confidence in him, nor the supplications of the electors, who fell down on their knees, could save M. Foulon from the fury of the people: He was snatched away from the town-house and hanged at the Lamp-Post, already celebrated by the suspension of the valiant defenders of the Bastille.—After M. Foulon was dead, he was taken down; his head cut off—the people rushed upon his body—dragged it in a most ignominious manner through the streets; and finally fixed the head upon a dung-fork before the house of his son-in-law, M. Intendant Bertier, for whom they were eagerly lying in wait.

Mr. Bertier attempted to fly for his life; but was caught by some country people, who acquainted the Parisians of his apprehension.—They sent 250 of the militia city troop of horse, to attend him in safety to Paris; where,

* Town-House. † Tyburn of Paris.

as soon as he arrived, the Judges were ready for his trial. If he is found guilty, no better fate awaits him, than befel his father-in-law, Foulon.

L O N D O N, August 5.

The following are copies of the letters of Monsieur de Montmorin and the Duke of Dorset.

Letter of Monsieur Montmorin to the Duc de Li-ancourt, President of the National Assembly.

Versailles, 27th July, 1789.

"MR. PRESIDENT,

"The Ambassador of England has intreated to have the honor, without loss of time to communicate the following letter to you. I have thought it so much less in my power to resist his application, as it is certain that he apprised me, in effect, verbally in the beginning of June last, of a plot against the port of Brest. Those who meditated this scheme desired certain succours for the expedition, and to have an asylum in England. The Ambassador did not give me any indication relative to the authors of this project, and he assured me that they were absolutely unknown to him. The enquiries that I have been able to make, after machinations so uncertain, have been as fruitless as they ought to be; and I have been obliged to confine myself to engage the Count de Luzerne to give the Commandant of Brest precautions to double his vigilance and activity.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

"DE MONTMORIN."

Letter of the Duke of Dorset, Ambassador from England at the Court of France, to the Count de Montmorin, Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

Paris, 26th July, 1789.

"SIR,

"It has been communicated to me from divers quarters, that endeavours have been made to insinuate that my Court had fomented in part the troubles that have afflicted the capital for some time past; that she had taken advantage of the present opportunity to take up arms against France; and that even a fleet was upon the coast to co-operate with the discontented party. Totally destitute of truth as these rumours are, they appear to me to have reached the National Assembly: And the Courier National, which gives an account of the sittings of the 23d and 24th of this month, leaves suspicions which give me so much more pain, as you know, Sir, how far my Court is from deserving them.

"Your Excellency will call to mind several conversations which I had with you in the beginning of June last, the horrid plot that had been proposed relative to the port of Brest; the anxiety I felt to put the King and his Ministers upon their guard; the answer of my Court, which corresponds so strongly with my sentiments, and which revolts with horror from the proposition that was made: In fine, the assurances of attachment which she repeated to the King and the Nation, enabled you to make known to his Majesty how much I participated in the emotion which the treachery must give him.

"As my Court has infinitely at heart to preserve the good harmony which subsists between the two nations, and to remove all contrary suspicions, I entreat you, Sir, to submit this letter, without delay, to the President of the National Assembly. You are aware how essential it is to me to justify my own conduct, and that of my Court, and to do my utmost to destroy the effect of the insidious insinuations which have been so industriously propagated.

"It is of infinite importance to me that the National Assembly should know my sentiments,