NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER,

AND

WASHINGTON ADVERTISER.

VOL. VI. WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE. No. DCCCCXXXIV.

FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM. WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1806. PAID IN ADVANCE.

A LIST of LETTERS

remaining in the Post Office at Washington city, on the 1st day of October, 1806.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

LONDON, AUGUST 13.

Of all the projects which Bonaparte ever conceived, the act of confederation, or rather the act of treason to the legitimate head of the empire and of submission to France, is the most dangerous that could have been contrived. In midst of peace with Prussia and Austria, he aims a blow at both of them, founds and forms a new empire, *Imperium in Imperio*, in the heart of the German empire, creates a new and formidable state to menace and act both against Prussia and Austria whenever he shall order it; a state not distant, not divided from either of them by mountains or rivers difficult to pass, but placed as it were at their very doors and thresholds, and able to march at once into the heart and centre of their dominions. Well has it been said that Bonaparte's hostilities of peace are equally and perhaps much more dangerous than his hostilities of war. He calls this act of confederation the Rhenish Confederacy, as if it included merely those powers and princes whose dominions are on the banks of the Rhine. But this confederacy of the Rhine extends to the Maine and the Danube; includes Swabia, Franconia and Bavaria, keeps a convenient door open for the entrance of every other power, and no doubt will either cajole or force the electors of Hesse and Saxony to join it, if electors they can any longer be called, now that their functions of electors are to cease, Bonaparte having determined that there shall be no emperor of Germany after the present, if even he be permitted to retain that title, *of which we entertain great doubt.* Napoleon is to assist himself in person at the opening of the assembly of deputies from all the states of the confederacy. We shall not be surprised to find him assume the title of emperor of the *Confederated States.* The assembly is to be held at Frankfort upon the Maine, which, after having lately paid four millions of florins for the preservation of its independence, is to be given to that servile instrument of the Corsican's ambition, the elector arch-chancellor. In the mean time the French troops are taking positions for the purpose of preventing all opposition to the execution of the new plan. The affair of Cattaro has afforded Bonaparte a pretence for keeping his troops in Germany, and for making fresh claims upon the emperor of Germany. This is his system—he will not aim any open blow at present at Austria, but by harrassing her with repeated demands and claims, he will produce advantages as great as he could derive from open war. The withholding Cattaro from him, though he has exonerated Austria from all blame, has furnished him with a pretext for demanding a large sum of money for the additional expence to which the keeping his troops in Germany has put him. The sum demanded is twenty-four millions; a sum which the Austrian treasury is unable at present to discharge. French troops, therefore, are proceeding to take possession at Saltzburg, and the important post of the Innverthiel; and thus the means and power of Austria will be still further cramped, and she will be less able to oppose the establishment of the Rhenish confederacy.

A large body of French troops seems also to be marching to the frontiers of Hesse and Saxony, with a view of overawing both those powers. And Prussia! Bonaparte pays as little attention to her inclinations and interests as to the meanest prince in the empire.—This act of confederation must be done in contempt and defiance of the cabinet of Berlin, for, it is impossible to suppose that the Prussian government can view the establishment of such a confederacy, with any other than sentiments of the deepest disapprobation and alarm. A new state is suddenly intruded into the empire, more powerful than herself; the princes whom she could influence or command, will not only be entirely withdrawn from her, but if Hesse and Saxony be, as we have no doubt they will be, forced to join the Rhenish confederacy, those who were formerly the firmest allies and friends of the Prussian power, will be converted into spies upon her conduct, and into engines for controlling and oppressing her whenever the supreme head of the Rhenish confederacy shall think fit. Let any one look at the position of Saxony and Hesse, and of that new dukedom which has been given to Murat, and he will immediately see how Prussia will be hemmed in and surrounded almost on every side. Oh, versatility of human affairs! Prussia, who has followed with undeviating constancy one line of policy, the policy of reducing the power of Austria, whose eye has been always directed to the acquisition of one object, who has flattered herself that she could make France her instrument for wresting the imperial crown from the house of Austria, and for placing herself upon the throne of the Cæsars. Prussia has indeed succeeded in reducing the power of Austria, but she has succeeded also in reducing herself to a situation of more than equal humiliation. She could have prevented these fatal effects—she held at one time in her hands the fate of Europe and the world. What fatal infatuation, or what foul treason enfeebled her arms when she could have struck a decisive blow, and effected on the plains of Moravia the deliverance of Europe! Such an opportunity of combining her own glory with the salvation of the world, of carrying her own greatness to the highest pitch, and of entitling herself to the gratitude of mankind, was never afforded to any nation. She neglected it, and negociated when she should have fought; sent an ambassador when she should have marched an army, and thus assisted with her own hands in forging fetters for the continent. What would have been the conduct of the great Frederick, under the same circumstances? But these are unavailing and afflicting recollections. Bonaparte has owed his present elevation less to his own vigor and genius, than to the feebleness and imbecility of those by whom he has been opposed.

The descent upon the coast of Calabria is mentioned in a letter from Naples of the 11th ult. Instead of 10,000 British troops having landed, there were only a few troops with 600 galley slaves. They landed on the 4th, but returned soon to their ships, compelled, as the letter says, by general Verdier to embark. It is probable that they meant merely to make a diversion, in which they succeeded. The French, it is obvious, had no victory to boast of.

AUGUST 14.

Earl St. Vincent has left the channel fleet, and sailed to the southward in the Hibernia, with the Defiance and some smaller ships. He will first proceed to Lisbon, but we can hardly believe for the purpose mentioned a day or two ago, of taking on board the prince of Brazil. He would not desert his kingdom till the last extremity. But the Lisbon mail which arrived this morning, justifies us in entertaining a suspicion that some expedition is intended against Portugal. This is understood to be one of the menaces which Bonaparte holds out against this country, in order to induce us to subscribe to certain terms.

A Portuguese messenger, with dispatches, arrived this morning.

GERMAN CONFEDERATION.

RATISBON, AUGUST 1.

This day M. Bacher, charge d'affaires of France, remitted to the diet the following note:

"The undersigned charge d'affaires of his majesty the emperor of the French and king of Italy, at the general diet of the Germanic empire, has received orders from his majesty to make the following declarations:

"Their majesties the kings of Bavaria and Wirtemberg, the sovereign princes of Ratisbon, of Baden, of Hesse Darmstadt of Nassau, and the other principal princes of the south and west of Germany, have taken the resolution to form among themselves a confederation, which places them in safety from all the uncertainties of the future, and they have ceased to be states of the empire.

"The situation in which the treaty of Presburg placed directly the courts allied to France, and indirectly the princes whom they surround, and who are their neighbors, being incompatible with the condition of a state of the empire, it became necessary for those courts, and for the princes to arrange on a new plan the system of their relations, and to cause to disappear an inconsistency which would have been a permanent source of agitation, of inquietude, and of danger.

"On her side France, so essentially interested in maintaining the peace of the south of Germany, and who could not doubt, that the moment when she should have caused her troops to repass the Rhine, discord, an inevitable consequence of relations contradictory or uncertain, ill defined and ill understood, would have exposed to new danger the repose of nations, and again perhaps lighted up a war upon the continent—bound besides to promote the welfare of her allies, and to enable them to enjoy all the advantages which the treaty of Presburg secured to them, and which she has guaranteed. France could only see in the confederation which they have formed, a natural consequence and necessary completion of that treaty.

"For a long time successive changes, which have gone on augmenting from age to age, had reduced the Germanic constitution to be only a shadow of itself. Time had changed all the relations of grandeur and of strength which originally existed among the members of the confederation, and between each of them, and the whole of which they made a part. The diet had ceased to have a will that belonged to itself. The sentences of the supreme tribunals could not be put in execution. Every thing attested an enfeeblement so great, that the federation tie no longer presented a guarantee, and among the powerful was only a cause of dissention and discord. The events of the three coalitions carried this enfeeblement to its utmost length. One electorate has been suppressed by the union of Hanover with Prussia; a northern power have incorporated with his other states one of the provinces of the empire; the treaty of Presburg has assigned to the Kings of Bavaria and Wirtemberg, and the elector of Baden, the plenitude of sovereignty; a prorogative which the other electors would claim, and be entitled to claim, but which could accord neither with the spirit nor the letter of the constitution of the empire.

"His majesty the emperor and king is therefore obliged to declare, that he acknowledges no longer the existence of the Germanic constitution; at the same time, nevertheless, recognizing the entire and absolute sovereignty of every one of the princes of whose states Germany at this day consists, and preserving with them the same relations as with the other independent powers of Europe.

"His majesty the emperor and king has accepted the title of Protector of the confederation of the Rhine. He has done so only from pacific views, and that his mediation, constantly interposed between the weak and the strong, may prevent every kind of dissension and disorder.

"Having thus done enough for the dearest interest of his people and of his neighbors—having provided as much as lay in his power for the future tranquillity of Europe, and in particular for the tranquillity of Germany, which has been constantly the theatre of war—in putting a period to the contradiction which placed the nations and the princes under the apparent protection of a system really contrary to their political interests, his majesty the emperor and king hopes that the nations of Europe will at length lend a deaf ear to the insinuations of those who wish to cherish eternal war upon the continent—that the French armies which have passed the Rhine, shall have passed it for the last time; and that the people of Germany will see no longer, in the history of the past any thing but the horrible picture of disorders of every kind, of devastations, and of massacres which war always brings in its train.

"His majesty has declared that he would never extend the boundaries of France beyond the Rhine: he has been faithful to his promise. At present, his only desire is to be able to employ the means which Providence has entrusted to him, for the purpose of asserting the liberty of the seas, of restoring to commerce its liberty, and securing the repose and happiness of the world.

(Signed) "BACHER."

"*Ratisbon, Aug. 1, 1806.*"

The kings of Bavaria and of Wirtemberg, the electors arch chancellor and of Baden, the landgrave of Hesse, the prince of Hohenzollern, the prince of Salm Kyrbourg, and the prince of Ysembourg, have this day sent a declaration to the Diet, in which they renounce the Germanic union, and announce their resolution, under the guarantee of the emperor of the French.

PARIS, *August 5.*

The English ambassador, lord Lauderdale, accompanied by two secretaries and Basilico, the messenger, arrived on the 3d inst. at Calais, and yesterday in this capital.

An imperial decree, dated the 3d of this month, ordains a levy of 50,000 conscripts, taken from the 80,000 authorized to be placed in a state of activity by the decree of the 2d Vendemaire, year 14. They will be divided among the different corps of the army. The 30,000 conscripts remaining from the 80,000, will form the reserve of the year 1806.

The official journal, on the occasion of this measure, contains the following note:—

"The Senatus Consultum of the 2d Vendemaire, year 14, placed at the disposal of the government the conscription of 1806. The third coalition appeared under such an aspect, that the levy of 80,000 men seemed then necessary to support the glory of the throne, and to defend the dearest interests of the country. But before the end of the month of Vendemaire, the success of Ulm had given such an advantage to our arms, that the emperor considered the calling out the conscription of 1806 as unnecessary, and confined himself to calling out the reserve.

"At present the 80,000 men of the conscription of 1806, the emperor has judged that the calling out of 50,000 is necessary. If, as every thing leads to hope, the affairs of the continent are about to be settled, these 50,000 men will serve to replace the soldiers who shall receive their discharge, and return to their families. If, on the contrary which there is no reason to think, the period of the repose of the continent is not yet arrived, these 50,000 men, by completing the different corps on the war footing, will carry the French army to its highest degree of strength.

"In any event, then, this levy is necessary. Even if we had enjoyed profound peace, we should always have called out, if not 50,000, at least 40,000 men. Since the last review, 20,000 men have been discharged; and by the result of the reviews of this year, it is probable that an equal number will again return to their homes.

"Nothing therefore ought to be inferred favorable either to war or peace, from this operation, which is almost annual. It is done at the ordinary period, sufficiently late for the harvest being finished, sufficiently soon for the young men to join their corps before the unfavorable season commences, and to perfect themselves in discipline during the winter."

The Moniteur of this day contains the following article:—

"Gen. Lauriston has written from Ragusa, under date of the 15th July, that that city enjoyed the most profound tranquillity, and that its territory was quite free from brigands. He adds, that during the whole period of the blockade and siege of Ragusa, he had only 40 men killed, and 120 wounded. He praises the behavior of his troops & the zeal of the natives."

The Moniteur also communicates the list of promotions of the brave men who distinguished themselves at Ragusa, and before Gaeta.

The Holy Crown of Thorns, which was given to St. Louis in 1238 by Baudoin, emperor of Constantinople, and which happily has been preserved amidst the religious profanations which have marked our revolution, will be transferred with all possible solemnity into the metropolitan church of Paris, on Sunday the 10th inst. Plenary indulgences will be given to the pious who may assist at the ceremony with the requisite qualities.

STUTGARD, JULY 29.

The march of French troops through this neighborhood is without remission. They generally take the route of Ulm and Dettingen. A small division of cavalry passed by this place to-day, and directed its course towards Tubingen. Other troops are in full march for Bavaria. Last night there were a thousand men at Esslingen; and several thousand at Canstadt, & in its environs, from whence they will this day continue their march. The advanced guard of troops under gen. Lefebvre had arrived there on the 26th.

Intelligence is received from Friburgh, in the Brisgau, that the great number of French troops which were in those countries requiring a much larger quantity of corn and hay, the prohibition to purchase military forage has been necessarily renewed.

BASLE, JULY 28.

Gen. Rapp is employed in visiting every part of his military division, which is that of the Rhine. On Monday he inspected the garrison of Huninguen. He remained there but a few hours, and did not come to Basle, as our citizens had flattered themselves.

The reports of a continental war are renewed, though we cannot trace them to any authority. It is certain, however, that the commandant of Huninguen has received orders, by a courier extraordinary, to send off with all possible dispatch, all the disposeable force in that place. In consequence, 500 men immediately passed the Rhine, to join their respective corps. It is also said, that a similar order has been given along the whole line, and that his majesty the emperor and king is expected in a short time at Strasburgh.

VENICE, JULY 12.

On the 10th inst. the French troops commanded by Gen. Seras, were embarked; and the same evening the flotilla, composed of 40 small transports, under the convoy of one corvette, two brigantines, and one frigate, set sail under the French Italian flag. The number of men on board is more than 5000, who will be disembarked in Dalmatia, in order to reinforce the army there. In the room of the division of Serras there will arrive in Istria two regiments from Frioul, forming part of the army commanded by General Marmont.

VIENNA, JULY 23.

The prosecution of gen. Mack every day becomes more and more intricate: He has accused most of the generals who served under him, and they have been ordered hither.

HAMBURGH, AUGUST 3.

For some time a great fermentation has reigned in Swedish Pomerania; those who are injured by the new order of things loudly express their discontent. On the other hand the inhabitants of the country are very well satisfied, villenage having been oppressive in that country, even more so than in any part of the Prussian states. The king since he succeeded to the throne, has been frequently petitioned by the states to receive the performance of fealty and homage as duke of Pomerania—but his majesty has constantly postponed satisfying this desire, under various pretexts.