

departure, he asked them if they had left nothing? They answered—Nothing; and all was now quiet.

Chaumette said, there was plenty of game, poultry, and bacon in the Palace of Equality, which the council ordered to be carried to the public markets.

GENERAL ORDERS.

THE armed force shall watch carefully all those who excite to pillage the egg and butter carts as they come to market. It is hoped that national justice will punish those who stir up anarchy and the dissolution of society. For a month past, strange faces have appeared in Paris. It is the duty of good citizens to keep a vigilant eye on this new breed. I invite my brothers in arms to live in union and fraternity, to serve the public weal, and to defend our common country against those who wish to be masters of it, in order to deliver it to new oppressors.

HENRIOT, Commandant-General.

LONDON, March 19.

According to the report of Barrere to the Convention on the 6th, and of Amar on the 9th instant, some uneasiness had pervaded the minds of the people, with respect to provisions, which did not arrive in sufficient plenty.—This scarcity having been attributed to the manoeuvres of disaffected persons, resident in the palace, formerly called the Palais Royal. Henriot, accompanied by the armed force of the different sections, went thither in the afternoon of the 10th, and blocked up all the avenues, and made a general search. The number of disaffected persons found there, is said to be above one hundred. The search not being concluded in the evening, the citizens of course remained under arms, and the avenues of the Palais were still blocked. If such an event deserve the name of an insurrection, such insurrections have often taken place without producing any important effects. The Palais Royal has always been supposed to be the resort of disaffected persons, and it is generally searched once every two months.

The people of Paris appear to be by no means disposed to an insurrection. Herbert, popular as he is, has been foiled in his endeavors to produce one against Camille Desmoulins, Fabre d' Eglantine, and other deputies: and when an address was published by the administrators of the police, on the 6th instant, requiring the people to rally round the Convention, the popular societies of each section unanimously resolved to obey the requisition.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL CONVENTION, 16 Ventose, March 6.

Barrere rendered an account of the infamous manoeuvres of conspirators. In Paris, says he, manuscript papers are circulated in the markets, and they have the audacity to recommend the choice of a chief. At Havre we have discovered the means employed by the merchants and bankers to debase the National Representation, and depreciate assignats. We know the sources of the fictitious scarcity which is felt. The guilty are arrested, and are now on their way to the Revolutionary Tribunal. At Lille, Maubeuge, and Landrecies, the culprits in correspondence with the ci-devant nobles, with Pitt and with Cobourg, have likewise been taken up. In vain does Pitt try to furnish us—let us watch over our generals, and purify the staff. The people will have a Republic and Democracy; let them triumph, and by one general movement crush their enemies.—Barrere observed, that the report on Chabot and others now in prison, should be made without loss of time; and he proposed the following decree:

The National Convention, after having heard the report of its committee of public safety, decrees:

The public accuser of the revolutionary tribunal is charged with taking immediate measures against those who are circulating manuscript pamphlets about the markets and streets, which are destructive of the liberties and peace of good citizens, and the national representation.

The authors of these conspiracies, as well as those who breathe distrust among the people who bring provisions to Paris, shall be instantly prosecuted.

A report shall be made in three days, of the measures adopted.

The committee of public safety shall immediately make a report on the means of strengthening the hands of government, and preserving the people from the intrigues of conspirators.

PROCLAMATION.

Of Ferreau, General in Chief of the Army of the West, dated Nantes, 28 Pluviose.

"Citizens, the time of deceiving is past. I promised you the naked truth; and it is as follows:

"The march of the columns ordered to traverse the Vendee country has been the means of destroying 6000 rebels who were scattered about; the re-taking of a very important post in the interior of the country, and the capture of an immense quantity of baggage. The banditti, who had the audacity to enter Chollet, by striking terror into the garrison, have bit the dust. They have been slain by a division detached from the army of the north, commanded by general Cordelier, whom I sent in pursuit of them.

"Another division, under General Duquesnoy, has put to flight the main body of Charette's army, in the thicket, and killed 8 or 900 of them. On the 26th Pluviose, General Cordelier put 15 or 1600 banditti to the bayonet near Beauprean, which has very much weakened La Roche Jaquelin's army. Three hundred of the rebels have just been shot in the forest of Pince; and many other advantages have been gained by General Haxo.

"The trifling ill successes we have experienced and which have been so much exaggerated, do not deserve notice. There are still some numerous parties in the Vendee, who are so much more dangerous, as they alone occupy the right banks of the Loire. My predecessors has allowed them too long a time to repose. We must yet make very strong efforts to terminate this war; but if the soldiers will only fight courageously, and the principal officers second my orders; if all the constituted authorities will join me, and if the Patriots are not misled. I swear that all shall be well."

March 7.

In consequence of some seditious movements which have lately appeared in this capital, the administration of Police have issued the following

PROCLAMATION:

"Citizens! Some new plots are at work. The enemies of Liberty are every where uniting. Wicked men do not content themselves alone to monopolize and create a fictitious scarcity, but they attempt to take advantage of their crimes, by exciting the people to insurrection.—Anonymous letters are in general circulation, in which it is recommended to disarm the citizens to dissolve the Convention and the Constituted Authorities, and to demand a Chief. Judge what must be the tendency of such writings and expressions?

"Citizens! It is time for you to rally, with more strength than ever, around the Convention—give confidence to your Magistrates; let every man watch, and soon will your enemies be forced to hide themselves in their lurking places!"

(Signed)

The Administration of Police.

Several Sections have, by proclamation, invited all the Citizens to carry to their respective committees the different copper utensils that they do not use, in order that cannon may be made of them.

No person who held a pension under the ancient government is to have a certificate of civism hereafter, unless he can prove that he has done some good act in favor of the Revolution.

The same scarcity of meat still continues. A capon has been sold for 47 livres, at the palace of Egalite, and a calf's pluck for 20 livres.

From Toulon we learn that the Le Heroux and Bonnet Rogeu are at sea. The Sans Culotte, the Genereux and Languedoc, three more ships of the line, are fitting out; and a great number of other ships of war are upon repair there. A great number of transports are also fitting out there; but it is not known whether they are destined for Corsica or Genoa.

At Brest, the fleet had a signal to be ready to sail on the 23d ult. and a convoy of upwards of 100 vessels arrived there, without any accident, from Bourdeaux.

BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS,

March 17.

LA FAYETTE.

GENERAL Fitzpatrick said that the motion which he had proposed to the House for their consideration might possibly call for an apology, did not the extraordinary circumstances of the times call for extraordinary proceedings; but he trusted, that if he could convince the House, that the measure which he should propose for their adoption, was not merely a measure of humanity, but also of wisdom and policy, they would have no hesitation in concurring with him. What had called him forward particularly with the present motion was,

a long friendship with one of the unfortunate objects of it, Monsieur La Fayette, a friendship which he has never yet had any reason to regret having formed. This unfortunate gentleman, with three others, were kept in close confinement by the king of Prussia, and endeavored to procure their release, was the object of the present motion. There was one fact with which the generality of the gentlemen in that House were not acquainted, which was that when the king of Prussia had been applied to for the release of these gentlemen, he had answered, that they were not his prisoners alone, but the prisoners of the Confederated Powers, without whose consent he could not release them. Upon this head we had the declaration of a right hon. gentleman, (Mr. Pitt) as a member of the Privy Council, but this was not quite sufficient; he wished for something more for the public satisfaction. In order to shew the good policy of endeavoring to procure the liberation of Monsieur La Fayette he must trespass on the patience of the House, while he related the tenor of that gentleman's conduct from the commencement of the French Revolution to the day of his confinement, in which it would clearly appear, that he had never departed from the straight line of honour and virtue. To the particular observation of his conduct he had been led by that friendship which had so long subsisted between them, and which had induced him to watch it with an anxious eye. Any person who had considered the affairs of France, must see there were four classes of men in that country; the first grand division was into Royalists and Republicans, the Royalists were again sub-divided into those who were advocates for the ancient despotism, and those who were the advocates of a limited monarchy; the Republicans again were divided into those who wished for a popular form of government by a representative assembly, and those who professing democratic principles, had established the present tyranny which exists in that country. No man would hesitate to declare which of these governments should be preferred, that no member of that house would hesitate to declare his abhorrence of a despotism of whatever kind, whether of an individual or body of men; and to give praise to a limited monarchy, under which we had enjoyed so many and continued blessings; from the conduct of La Fayette it was best to be seen which of these parties he espoused. Monsieur La Fayette, he confessed, had been greatly instrumental in bringing about the revolution of France, and he believed that there were very few in this country, who did not approve of it in the first stage; beyond a doubt they had in view the government and constitution of this country, when they formed their views, but from a vain hope of excelling that which had stood the test of time, and procured general happiness to those who lived under it, they went too far, and laid in the foundation of their constitution the seeds of its dissolution. He stated that the massacres of the 5th and 6th October had been objected against La Fayette as a crime; what had been his conduct? he was at that time commander of the National Guards; he did every thing in the power of man, to prevent the horrid scene which took place; he had been up sixty hours, fifteen of which he had been on horseback, nature, worn out with fatigue, required some repose; he ventured to lie down for an hour, in the interim the tumult recommenced, and the mischief was done. It has been alleged by his enemies, that he retired to give an opportunity for the commission of their violence, but this he denied could be the case. What had been his conduct when the Jacobin Club had attempted to get an ascendancy over the National Assembly, and had actually proceeded to violence at the Champ de Mars? he repressed the rioters at the head of the Guards. After this when he found that the Jacobin party was getting fast into power, and that many of the Guards were favorable to that faction, he resigned his command; but he afterwards re-assumed it, at the express solicitation of all the well disposed people of Paris, and of the Royal Family themselves.

It had been objected against him also that he sent an officer after the King and Queen, when they attempted to make their escape. This he was by his situation in a manner compelled to do; but his subsequent conduct showed how much he was the friend of Lewis, for when after his capture, it was proposed to try him and bring him to execution, he boldly declared in the assembly, that if they took such a step, that at the head of the National Guard he would the next day proclaim Louis the XVII. this bold and firm declaration, for that time put a stop to their proceedings. The Jacobin party had done every thing in their power to render this man friendly to their designs, but in vain. The last public act of which he took notice, was his conduct previous to the 10th of August. The King, when he found his power almost reduced to nothing, and that all was in the most dangerous and critical situation, dispatched on the 5th of August, a messenger to La Fayette, who was then at the head of the army, as to the only friend upon whom he could rely, and as his last resource. The messenger did not reach the camp till the 8th, which was too late, for on the 10th the kingly power was completely annihilated. Commissioners from the Convention came to La Fayette, offering him any terms, and every honor which might flatter his ambition, if he would join their party, but he refused. But what was his conduct? he resolved to stay no longer at the head of the army, nor would he lead them against his country! but nevertheless he thought it his duty to place it in a state of security,

which he effectually did; inasmuch that general Clairfait, thinking the moment of retreat would be a good time to attack the enemy, found them so advantageously posted, that he thought it best to desist. If he had delivered up the commissioners to the enemies of his country, or surrendered his army, his virtues might have been the subject of a manifesto, or if he had carried off the money chest of the army he might have found an asylum; but having discharged the duty of a good citizen and friend to his country, his reward has been a dungeon. He next adverted to the place where he was made prisoner, in a neutral country, the Bishoprick of Liege: under what circumstances? Why under a promise from the Austrian garrison, to whom he credulously trusted, of protection and support, he was, however, with those officers to the amount of forty, who accompanied him made prisoners, from thence they were conducted to a post where the Prussians were then in power, who claimed La Fayette and his companions as the prisoners of the king their master. These gentlemen were not taken as prisoners of war, but prisoners of state, for all were dismissed except La Fayette, and three others who had been members of the constituent Assembly, and were now actually confined under the denomination of state prisoners. He lamented the cruelty with which those unfortunate men were treated, confined in subterraneous dungeons, denied the pleasure of mutual intercourse; and till lately, when they have been, as an extraordinary favour, permitted under the severest restrictions, to breathe the fresh air for about an hour each day; refused to see the light of heaven; and the only crime these gentlemen had committed, was being the friends of that constitution, we say we wish to restore.—He observed, that we were bound to use our power to liberate those men by the declaration of his Majesty to the people of France, in which he promises protection to the friends of the constitution of 1789; and those men had shewed themselves its most strenuous supporters; for they had ventured their fortunes, their lives, and have lost their liberty for the cause. He contended that the people of France could not possibly have any reliance upon the promises of this country, when they see the very great advocates of the constitution incarcerated and treated in the most cruel manner by our allies, without any interference whatever on our part. He said, that our violence had drawn from the cause of royalty, many of its best friends and most able supporters, and drove them to defend the cause of Republicanism. He was certain the best mode for this country to shew the excellence of its constitution and the attachment of Englishmen to the cause of true freedom, wherever it might exist, would be to interpose in behalf of those unfortunate men, and convince mankind in general, of the great blessing of an humane and benevolent prince.

The best way to convince the atheists of France of the superiority of Religion, would be by shewing them the practical exercise of one of its chiefest virtues—Charity to the oppressed. There was one thing upon which he had not yet touched, which was the conduct of General La Fayette during the war with America, but this he did not think could operate against him in the mind of any liberal man; there might be found for him, a good apology, he was at the time of entering a volunteer in the American army, but nineteen, the subject of a kingdom where military fame was so much prized, his conduct winked at, if not approved and encouraged by his master; he was certain that if any proposition could have been made for preserving the life of that unfortunate King, no man would have the cruelty to have objected to him, his conduct during the American war. He then recapitulated the several arguments he had used, and concluded by moving— "That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, representing that the detention of Mr. La Fayette, &c. was an act of great cruelty and injustice; that their liberation would tend much to the advancement of the common cause; and that his Majesty would be pleased to take such wise steps as he in his Royal Wisdom might deem fit, to procure their enlargement."

Colonel Tarleton seconded the motion. In doing so, he professed to decline entering into the general circumstances of French affairs; of the crisis which led to the various scenes which took place in