



2

PLAIN TRUTH:
OR, AN
IMPARTIAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS AT PARIS

During the last Nine Months.

CONTAINING,
Among other interesting Anecdotes,
A PARTICULAR STATEMENT
OF THE MEMORABLE
TENTH OF AUGUST,
AND
THIRD OF SEPTEMBER.

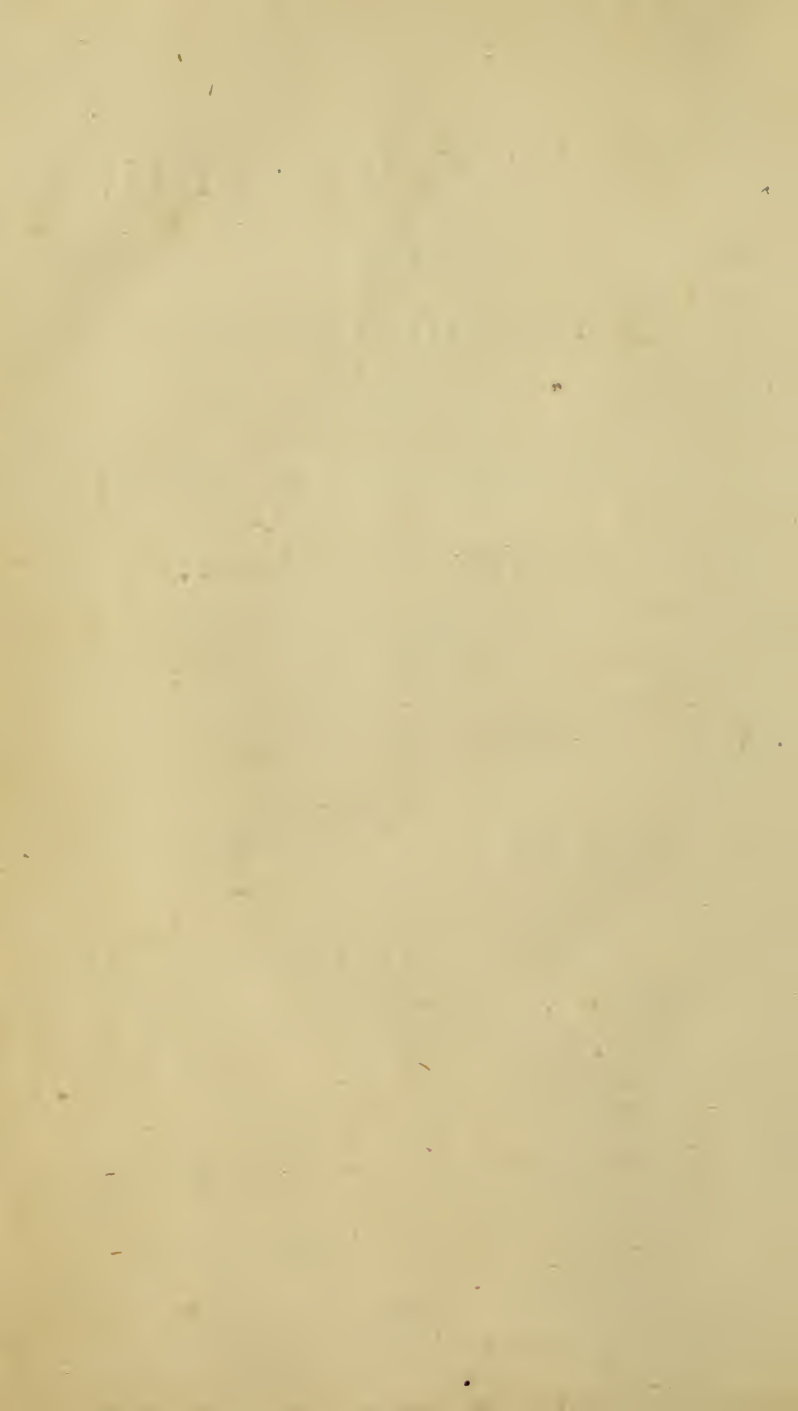
THE SECOND EDITION.

BY AN EYE WITNESS.

LONDON:
Printed for J. PARSONS, No. 21, Pater-Noster Row.

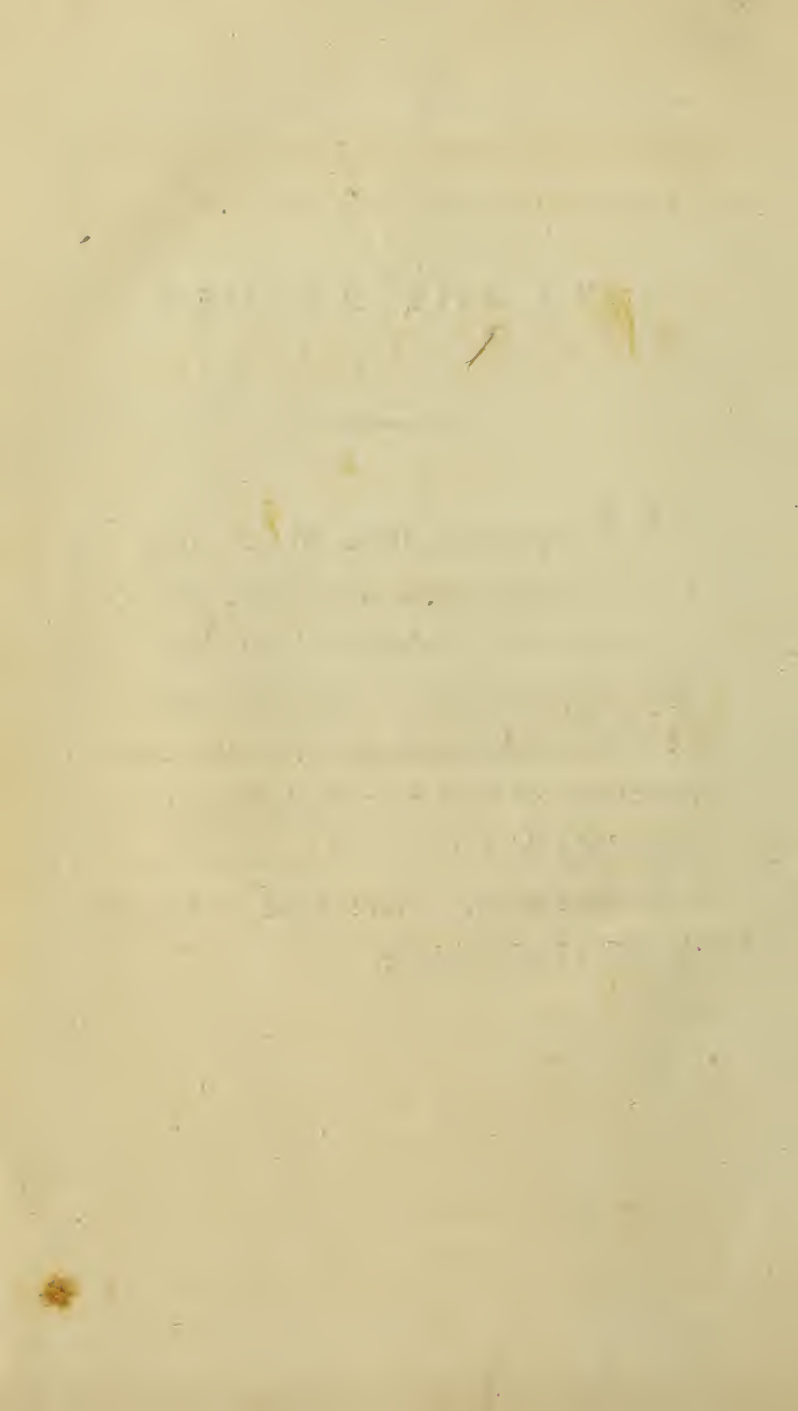
1793.

[PRICE ONE SHILLING.]



TO THE READER.

ON perusing these Sheets, thou wilt easily penetrate into my motives for dedicating my work to honest John Bull. As I have no pretensions to erudition myself, so he having little learning in his head, has still less malice in his heart: And if my productions help him to pass an entertaining or instructive hour, I have little to fear from the lash of his criticism.



PLAIN TRUTH,

ᄆᄆ. ᄆᄆ. ᄆᄆ.

WE left Dover about one o'clock on Friday the 16th of December 1791. Sky serene when we left the harbour, but in less than an hour changed to a violent storm; the wind, however, was in our favour, and drove us directly for our port—but the excessive motion of the vessel made us all exceedingly sick. Unable to assist each other, we lay about the cabin in no very comfortable state. At length, to our great joy, some one on deck cried out, à Calais! à Calais! We crawled up, and were happy to find ourselves in the harbour. In half an hour we landed, and were surrounded by as motley a groupe as ever Hogarth drew. I thought of his song, when we came to the gate: On one side stood a cripple—on the other, his counterpart, a
B centinel,

centinel, whose appearance might put all that passed by in mind of their latter end :

Long figure, whiskers large, and visage grim,
His firelock seem'd almost as fat as him.

We crossed the Grand Place, and entered *Monf. Maurice's* kitchen, where we found a comfortable wood-fire on the hearth, and a spacious chimney-corner, like some of ours in the farm-houses in England.

We soon procured a dish of tea, after which my wife and child retired to rest, being fatigued with the voyage. I staid to supper, which was an excellent one; in short, I cannot recommend a traveller to a better house than *Monf. Maurice's*, at Calais, for good accommodations and reasonable charges. In the morning I took a walk on the ramparts, which were once probably strong, but at present much out of repair. The market held in the Grand Place appears plentifully supplied with provisions (and old clothes). We went to the banker's and changed what gold was sufficient to defray our expences on the road, for their national paper; this was new money to me: We then hired a *cabriolé* of *Mr. Grandfire* (a very obliging hotel-keeper), and taking post-horses, left Calais about five in the evening, in company with another *cabriolé*, going to Paris. We passed through Boulogne, but it being dark, I could not make any observations on the place. We stopt at the post-house, half a league

league on the other side, and had a tolerable supper. We then proceeded to Montreal, a sketch of which I defer till my return, it being still dark. The next morning, about eleven, we reached

A B B E V I L L E,

Our place of destination for breakfast: It is a large town, or rather city, the second of note in Picardy. It contains a great number of churches, convents, and monasteries, from whence it derives its name, Abbeville, or the City of Abbeys. Its principal trade is in tapestry and stuffs. Many considerable merchants reside here. It was also strongly fortified, but is at present much out of repair. It presents a beautiful view, from a hill you descend in entering the town. It is very large, and has an ancient cathedral. From Abbeville we passed through a fine country, and several villages, to

A M I E N S,

The capital of Picardy. This city is large, reputed to contain 60,000 inhabitants; it has a noble cathedral, the spire of which we saw at the distance of many miles; they tell you its height is 500 feet from the ground to the top. This city was once in the possession of the English; and is famous for being the place of interview between our Henry VIII. and the then reigning

king of France, Francis. Its principal trade is the same with Abbeville. Its walls are almost surrounded by the river Somme, which turns several mills. Here is also a very ingenious machine, called the Chateau d' Eau, or Water Castle, being an engine to supply the town with water, which is here thrown up to the height of 200 feet. The mechanist will find it worth his examination; and the traveller may have a fine view of the city and adjacent country from the balcony at the top.

At Amiens we dined, and pushed on for Clermont, intending to sleep there; but the roads being bad, and the night very dark, we were obliged to stop at Bretevil. We entered a large, but miserable, inn; we asked for our room, and were conducted along a dark gallery, which the glimmering of the candle rendered still more gloomy, till we came to a chamber, the door of which creaked on its hinges, as if they had long remained in peaceful rust, since its last inhabitants quitted it. The room reminded me of the Great Hall in Windsor Castle: The flooring was old oak, the cieling enormous beams of the same; a cold sweat seemed to hang upon the walls, and a cold shiver struck through me. I began to think there was some truth in enchanted castles, and that we had stumbled on one of their subtertaneous apartments. However, the girl made us a fire, and provided us a tolerable supper; which, with the conversation of our companions, awhile
dissipated

diffipated the gloom of the place. But when they retired, the appearance of our beds was not very inviting; on each side the door was one, which might have served Goliath of Gath: Nor would he have risqued any danger of hitting his head against the top, if he had risen in a hurry, for that was distant from the bed full fifteen perpendicular feet. In short, it seemed long since the beds had groaned beneath the weight of human frailty; however, we crept into one with all our clothes on; and rising with the sun, pursued our journey, without stopping, except to change horses, till we reached Chantilly, where we ate like Englishmen; not having broke our fast that day. After attacking, and entirely demolishing, a roast leg of mutton, with its out-posts, such as harricoes, potatoes, &c. we departed, and in the evening arrived at

P A R I S.

As I cannot say much in recommendation of the inn we took up our quarters at, I will not mention the name, that I may do them no injury: We had tolerable beds, but a most miserable table; they serving scarce enough for three to satisfy one: This gave us no very encouraging specimen of French living. Here, however, we existed a week, scarcely daring to pop our heads into the street, for fear of losing our way; at length I took courage, and having the address of
a young

a young man I knew, I took the Garçon d'Écurie, or stable-boy, with me to seek him; and finding suitable apartments for us in the same house, we removed thither. I shall surprize my reader, when I tell him our house contained near three hundred rooms; but there are many such in Paris; the houses being, many of them, seven stories high, and consisting of several ranges of building; this was one: They are also built, for the greater part, after the manner of Northumberland or Devonshire houses; great gates, and high walls, next the street; large courts before, and gardens behind the houses. These vacancies contribute much to the health of the inhabitants, and in some measure balance the narrowness of the streets, which are exceedingly inconvenient for foot passengers, there being no pavement as in London, so that an Englishman walks in perpetual fear of being run over. But the beautiful Promenades, in and about the environs of Paris, are far beyond any we can boast; the Boulevards which surround the city, are one continued walk for twenty-seven miles, embellished with fine high trees, at even distances, and ornamented with the superb villas of the nobility, and their beautiful gardens. If you are disposed to ride, I cannot point you out a tour more replete with agreeable variety; if to walk, the Boulevards du Temple will furnish an amusing lounge. Here you will find twelve or thirteen theatres, within as many yards distance from each other; and the

various species of amusement present a lively picture of the natural gaiety of the people; while the amazing crowds that are promenading here, will give you an idea of the population. Every coffee-house has its band of musicians and singers; so that if you are fond of music, you may regale your ears, while you are pleasing your palate with some of their nick-nacks, with which the coffee-houses abound.

THE CHAMP D'ELYSEES,

OR

ELYSIAN FIELDS,

Present another agreeable evening's promenade. The trees, which form a shade impenetrable to the rays of the sun, are planted, whichever way you turn, in direct alleys; when these are filled with the beau monde, who resort here every evening, they indeed form a picture adequate to the name of the place. The favourite walk is at the back of the magnificent hotels in the Rue d'Honoré; whose gardens, laid out in all the vagaries of fancy, vie with each other for the palm. Leaving these, and crossing the high road, you enter that part which extends along the side of the river Seine: This is the place allotted for games and recreations; those most in vogue, are bowls (at which they are very expert), skittles, and tennis. This place also abounds with Ginguets, or little gardens,

dens, appropriated for drinking and dancing. To the latter they are much devoted; to the first very sparingly, it being by no means a common thing to see a Frenchman drunk—(Example to Englishmen!) But if you will dance the four and twenty hours round, they will caper with you. The very poorest of the people have their evening balls, and club together, by subscribing a half-penny each, to pay a blind fiddler and his boy. You may see fifty of these assemblies at a time; and the groupes are not, in general, unpleasantly mixed; barbers boys, with dirty faces, dirty shirts, and broad ruffles, handing with all the air of a courtier, a red-fisted, coarse-clad, homely wench, who perhaps bawled ballads through half the streets of Paris during the day; a Chevalier de St. Louis, who, rather than disgrace the bit of faded ribbon in his button-hole, by stooping to work, submits to a state of daily starvation, existing on the pay of a foot soldier; yet even he will pinch a penny from his hungry belly, to give his heels a treat in the evening, and with his rusty silk hat under his arm, petition for the honour of handing a Poissard, or fishwoman, down the dance, consigning the memory of his poverty till he creeps to his solitary garret;—his withered muscles relax into smiles, and he gives into all the gaiety of the moment. Such is the character of this volatile nation. Let us a moment digress, and compare it with the disposition of our own.

THE ENGLISHMAN,

Naturally thoughtful, indulges this turn of mind, till he persuades himself into a belief that he is the most rational being and soundest philosopher in the world. He surveys the manners of other nations with a sovereign contempt for all their customs that differ, forsooth, from those he has been used to. This portrait appears to me to resemble my countrymen, fresh from their own fire-side. But though their prejudices are strong, they are not incurable; since few of them, that make any stay abroad, but leave some of that rust behind, which they carried with them from home; and though they still retain (what I could wish every Englishman should) a preference for their native country, they are not so blind as to applaud her very errors, nor so uncandid as to condemn other nations for their peculiarities.

For this reason, I would wish, if it were possible, all Englishmen to travel; whether it is because they possess sufficient good sense to reap solid advantages from it, or that they stand more in need of improvement than other nations, I leave to better judges than myself to determine.

As the French exceed us in gaiety, so they excel us in every thing that contributes to amusement. Their plays are represented in a style far superior to ours; the performers, generally speaking, infinitely surpass ours; in short, Mirth and Pleasure were the tutelar deities of Paris. But how is the scene changed!

HAVING thus given a very brief sketch of Paris and its inhabitants, I prepare to enter into a detail of political events, as they occurred during my residence there.

At the time of our arrival (Christmas, 1791) all was tolerably tranquil; the measures to be taken respecting the war with the emigrant princes, were then agitating in the National Assembly. I was in the Assembly, when M. Brissot made his motion for carrying the war into Germany, instead of making France the theatre. However, it was determined to act only on the defensive. I could not help then observing the want of unanimity in their council, since the most trivial expressions from one party operated like a call to arms upon the other; all was discord and confusion, resembling a school when the master quits his place. Things passed on in this manner, without any material occurrence, for some time, during which I obtained a place, which gained me the favour and patronage of many of the nobility, especially such as were about the Queen, whom I had frequently the honour of seeing. She has been a fine woman, indeed is so still, but sorrow has left ravages on her person, that time will not now repair. The King is a very corpulent man, and as deficient in mental abilities as in personal grace: The Dauphin is a fine sprightly boy, about nine years old; the Princess a delicate girl, not unlike the Queen in person. The royal family were at that time little better than prisoners in the Chateau of the Tuilleries;

Thuilleries; every day at eleven, they went to mass in the royal chapel, where the public had admittance to see them, and in the apartments as they passed. At noon, if the weather was tolerable, the king usually took an airing, when the garden gates were thrown open to the people, to see him mount his horse. He rides in great jack-boots, such as are worn by the postillions, and looks better on horseback than on foot, as he waddles very much in his gait. He was usually accompanied by two or three gentlemen, and a detachment of his Garde du Corps, who, when he mounted, would cry *Vive le Roi!* but his subjects regarded him as he passed with a sullen silence, that sufficiently evinces how little he is beloved by them. Indeed there is very little lost between them, they regarding him as a tyrant, aiming to reattain arbitrary power, and trample them more than ever under his feet; and he considering them as rebels, that have deprived him of his rights, and insulted him by placing a limited sceptre in his hand. But what a solecism in politics did they commit, in replacing a man on the throne, who had deserted it by a shameful flight; endeavouring to escape from the trammels of a constitution he had sworn to protect. Was the man, was the monarch, who could thus trifle with an oath, again to be trusted with the care of the people he had abandoned?

Unhappy France! in every sense a slave:
Thy senators were fools—thy king a knave.

How did the King exercise his new-acquired power?—As common sense might have told them he certainly would: He who had once forfeited the sacred faith he had so solemnly pledged, found no difficulty in swearing new oaths, and committing fresh treacheries; in employing every possible engine to forward the advances of the Austrians and Prussians; signing with one hand a declaration of war, and paying with the other the enemy's troops. From this double-dealing of the French king, we may justly date the miseries that follow; all such as I was a spectator of, I will relate with truth: "Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

I will begin with the 20th of June last, the first day in which popular discontent began again to shew itself: In consequence of the King refusing to put his *veto*, that is to say, the ultimate decision of yes or no, from whence there is no appeal—a power till then vested in the monarch's breast by the nation, and the same that our king deservedly enjoys, *viz.* that of deciding on the fate of criminals before condemned to die, or putting the assent or negative on bills that have passed both houses;—in consequence of Louis refusing to sign two bills that had passed the Assembly, the one declaring his brothers traitors to the realm, and their estates confiscated, the other banishing the refractory priests, who had refused to take the oath of fidelity to the new form of government; the people assembled in vast

vast crowds, furrrounding the palace, and loudly demanding entrance. The King sent to the mayor for a sufficient number of guards to protect his person. A vast number came, and patrolled the gardens in small divisions; wherever they found twenty or thirty persons assembled, breaking through and separating them. They also drew up several cannon on the terrace; and planting them ready, paraded with lighted matches. Notwithstanding this appearance of danger, the people in great crowds entered the palace, filling all the royal apartments; and even went so far as to force open the door of the apartment where the King was sitting. He presented himself, and, as a grenadier who was with him, told me, behaved with great personal bravery; desiring them, if it was his life they fought, to take it: The Queen, with the Dauphin in her hand, thinking they were going to assassinate him, rushed between; and, falling at his feet, begged of them to kill her first. They offered him a red cap—the emblem of the Jacobin party; he took it, put it on his head, and, taking a bottle in his hand, drank to the health of the nation. They then insisted on his signing the two bills in question, and a deputation from the Assembly waited on him for that purpose: He desired twenty-four hours to consider of it, and with much difficulty carried his point; the people at last evacuating the palace, and retiring peaceably home.

Having thus narrowly escaped the fury of his enraged subjects, when the palace was cleared, he

ordered

ordered all the gates to be shut, doubled the guards at every avenue, and formed a kind of encampment in the garden; he also issued peremptory orders, that no one should have admittance, but such as presented a ticket, which were distributed to none but those who had particular business with the court. These proceedings gave great umbrage to the people; who considered the shutting up the royal gardens as an infringement of their liberties, and occasioned many broils between them and the centinels at the gates.

On some days they would open the terrace which goes round the garden, and admit the public: It was on one of these, that a Mr. Dupremenil, formerly one of their ministers, and known to be a staunch friend to the court, or, in their own words, a strong aristocrat, was so imprudent as to walk there. He was soon recognized by the people, and followed. Finding the crowd press exceedingly upon him, he turned, and asked the meaning of it. Some one called him by name; he replied, Yes, gentlemen, I am Dupremenil: what would you have? He had no sooner spoke, than he received a blow from a sabre, which was repeated till he fell. His friend who was with him, called a guard to save him, if possible, from the fury of the mob: This however was not effected, till they had dragged him from the place where he fell, to the Palais Royal, nearly half a mile. Here I saw him in the hands of the soldiers, who had rescued him, with not a piece of his clothes to cover him; and so mangled
and

and bloody, it was scarcely possible to believe it was a man: Notwithstanding this treatment, he recovered, none of his wounds being mortal.

The news of these disturbances in the capital, induced Monf. La Fayette to leave his army, and come unattended to town, to inform the Assembly of his sentiments on the insolent behaviour of the people to their sovereign. This he bravely performed; reprobating, in a manly and spirited manner, the mayor and ministers of the police to their faces, for their neglect, in suffering a shameless rabble to insult their king. These sentiments turned against himself the tide of popular clamour; and the Jacobin party, who secretly vowed his ruin, seized the present occasion, to paint his conduct in the most infamous light. Not having, however, as yet entirely converted their masters, the mob, to their way of thinking, Fayette escaped back to his post unhurt; having first paid his respects to his royal master and mistress, and assured them of his endeavours to protect them from a repetition of such outrages. His enemies, meanwhile, set every engine to work to accomplish his ruin—representing him as a rebel, in leaving his post without orders from the nation; pointing out the marked preference he paid the Queen, by waiting on her on his first arrival, before he went to the Assembly; and a thousand reports they circulated, to blacken his character, and despoil him of the public confidence. At length they completed their purpose.

What

What is so inconstant as that weather cock, public opinion, or popular favour? Fayette—the great, the wise, the celebrated Fayette—experienced this! He who was looked upon as the champion of liberty—the saviour of his country—the Washington of France—was now declared a traitor to the state; a price set upon his head; and his name consigned to infamy. The news of his countrymen's gratitude soon reaching him, he withdrew with a part of his army, into the town of Sedan. But here not thinking himself secure, among a people so easily seduced from their principles; he, with his council of officers, left an army, no longer worthy of their general, and in spite of the diligent search made after him, had the good fortune to elude the vigilance of his enemies.

Fayette's accusation and flight causing an universal stir among the people, the Assembly took advantage of the moment; and to increase the panic, caused standards to be erected in every part of the city, with this emphatical inscription—

The country is in danger!

Thus, as it were, putting the people on their guard against some hidden treason ready to burst forth. Meanwhile, the progress of the Austrian arms made it necessary to reinforce their armies on the frontiers; for this purpose, stages were erected in all the public places, for enlisting recruits; all sizes and all ages were
taken,

taken, and volunteers offered themselves in great numbers.

Meanwhile, great preparations were making, to celebrate the grand fête of the confederation. As I had heard so much of the preceding ones, I was determined to see this; for which purpose, I went early to the Champ de Mars, a large plain, in front of the Military School, where the youth performed their evolutions. This building, one of the most superb in Paris, was the academy for training the young nobility to arms; and from among them the King's body-guard was usually chosen. Round the field were banks thrown up, for the spectators to view the ceremony, and tents pitched, for the municipal officers of Paris; also one, by way of ornament, for each of the eighty-three departments of France. The trees on each side were decorated with ribands, and the cap of liberty at top; in the midst, was the altar of the country, on which a tree of liberty was also planted; at the four corners were four beacons, on which they burnt incense. About four o'clock in the afternoon the royal family arrived and appeared at the balcony of the Military School, which was ornamented with rich canopies for their reception; the little Dauphin wore a uniform, the same as the national guards: The way from the door of the school to the altar, was lined with the King's body-guard, who formed an alley, through which he was to pass. The rest of the plain was filled with the national

D

guards,

guards, and detachments of troops from every department of France. One of the King's guard, fearing some accident might happen to the person of the King, proposed to his comrades to bind themselves by a solemn oath, to defend him from all possibility of an attack, by keeping the passage impenetrable, permitting none but themselves to approach him. They instantly, as one man, drew their swords, and swore to preserve him, or perish: They kept their oath accordingly; and though many attempts were made to get near him as he passed, they were fruitless. His guard even ascended with him, contrary to custom, to the top of the altar; where, when he had sworn, a signal announced it to the people, and a tremendous discharge of cannon proclaimed it to the world: The Queen kept her opera-glass stedfastly fixed on the King, from the time he quitted the balcony, till his return. They retired, followed by a vast number of troops; but these were not sufficient to protect them from the hissings of the people.

This behaviour of the King's guard did not escape the notice of the Jacobins, who thought it was time to apply a remedy: Accordingly they were accused of being corrupted, to serve the king in opposition to the nation; and by a decree from the Assembly were disbanded, and an equal number of the national guards put in their place.

This perpetual misunderstanding between the King and the people, and the constant bickerings
which

which happened in political disputes, were but so many preludes to a gathering storm, which burst forth in all its horrors, on the memorable 10th of August 1792. I will endeavour to be clear and faithful in the relation.

ON the day of the 9th, vast numbers of carriages were observed going to and from the Thuilleries, and a more than ordinary number of the nobility were at the levee. From this bustle, it was conceived some extraordinary business was in agitation. Towards the evening the visitors increased, consisting of the first people in rank, then residing at Paris. This intelligence reached M. Petion the mayor, who ever keeping a jealous eye on the King's proceeding, suspecting some new scheme, went in person to the palace at two o'clock in the morning; he found it, as reported, unusually crowded; and as it was told him, they talked loudly of assassinating him in the apartments, he contrived to let the Assembly know of his situation: They were then sitting, and commanded him instantly to the bar of the House, to preserve his life. His report of what he had seen at the palace, soon spread over the city, and the drums instantly beat to arms; the Tocsin, or alarm-bell, which is never rung but in cases of extremest danger, sounded in every

parish; and at day-break the whole city was in motion.

The court, in the mean time, were not idle: The night was passed in council, wherein it was determined the King should review the troops at day-break in the garden, and sound their sentiments: The Swiss they were already sure of, as they had been kept in pay some time, and had each their departments allotted them in case of success. Accordingly, at six o'clock the troops were assembled, to the number of ten thousand, and passed in review before the King, who expressed much satisfaction at their appearance, conversing familiarly with the men. When the officers at length put the question to them, by asking them to cry, *Vive le Roi!* the Swiss answered as they wished; but the national guards were silent: The demand was again repeated, when they filed off, and left the ground.

Notwithstanding this discouraging appearance, the court were determined to pursue the scheme, and venture the success of the day on the courage of the Swiss alone. They were accordingly planted at all the windows of the palace, in their barracks, and at the cannon in the court; in this order they waited the arrival of the people. The King having thus laid the train, and applied the match to it, instead of putting himself, like a brave man, at the head of those troops who were to fight for his crown and life; in conformity to
his

his former conduct, fled with his family to the protection of that Assembly, whose ruin he hoped he had effectually contrived.

The Marseillois, who had come to Paris to have the grand question decided, whether the King had not, by his repeated treacheries, forfeited his right to the throne? were the first who appeared in arms on the Place de Caroussel. They were soon joined by numbers of the citizens, whom the alarm had assembled; some with musquets, others with pikes, or such instruments as came to hand: They advanced in a body to the gates, which were opened on their demanding entrance; and the Swiss, holding up their caps on their bayonets, in token of friendship, invited them to advance, which they did within ten yards of the palace. Having thus drawn them into the middle, so that they could take them in every direction, they threw them cartridges from the windows, which the unthinking mob were giddy enough to scramble for; this was the signal to fire—when a tremendous cross discharge of musquetry and cannon took place at the same moment, sweeping them in every direction, and laid upwards of three hundred in the dust. The rest, astonished for a moment, gave back; but exasperated at the treachery of their enemies, rallied and returned the charge like furies rather than men. The combat was fierce and bloody for near an hour, during which time the people were three several times

times in possession of the cannon of the Swiss, and as often lost them, every man at the guns being killed: In short, such was the conduct of the Swiss, that at one time victory seemed inclined to declare for them; they drove the mob before them in two directions; one party took the route of the Place Vendôme, where I met them, screaming as they ran, They fire the cannon on the people! I was not long left in doubt of this; the cannon were actually playing down the street, and the people fell on every side. Let me not omit mentioning that I also saw many of the national guards ranged with the Swiss, and firing on the people—these traitors thus joining whichever side appeared to them the strongest; for in an hour afterwards, when the Swiss in their turn ran, not a blue coat was to be seen among them, being then mingled with the mob. The cavalry arriving, turned the fortune of the day; these brave fellows rode to the charge with a fury that bore down all opposition, and again recovered the cannon. The Swiss now took to their heels: I passed with difficulty through several streets, till I gained the Rue St. Honore, at that end near the Palais Royal, which was another scene of action; where the Swiss were as yet victorious, though the ground was obstinately disputed; and the numbers of dead and dying men they carried by each moment, proved how much the people suffered: They were also particularly careful in preserving their dead; while the bodies of the

Swiss

Swiss were left on the spot, and afterwards cut in small pieces by the enraged populace. The Gen-d'armerie again arrived to the assistance of the foot, and again brought victory with them; the rest, fired by their example, seconded their charge, and in less than ten minutes brought the limbs and heads of the Swiss on the points of their pikes. The Swiss, having exhausted all their ammunition, even to the last button on their jackets, took to flight; the people followed them to the palace, and even the very women, with sabres in their hands, joined the pursuit, entering close at the heels of the others: A dreadful carnage ensued; the great stair-case leading to the guard-chamber, the gallery, and all the royal apartments, were filled with dead. In vain they begged for quarter; none was given: The domestics, and all that were found in the palace, were put to death; some leaping from the windows, and others being thrown, were caught on the points of the bayonets and pikes. Numbers fled into the garden, but that being surrounded on all sides, they were there massacred; the porters at each of the gates shared the same fate. A regiment of Swiss, quartered two leagues from Paris, hearing of the situation of their comrades, hastened to their assistance; and had reached the Place Louis XV. when they were met by the people, who instantly charged, and cut most of them to pieces; such as escaped were sent

sent prisoners to the Palace de Bourbon, of whom we shall speak further.

I was obliged to remain a sad spectator this day, of more scenes of horror than I wished; it being impossible to pass the streets to get home. Two grenadiers coming up to talk with a lady near the spot, I enquired which way they were going; and finding it was my road requested them to let me walk with them, as I was exceedingly inconvenienced alone, being stopped every instant to demand what I did without arms. They politely acquiesced; and taking one of them by the arm, we turned out of the Rue St. Honore, intending to gain the Pont Neuf, passing by the Old Louvre: But when we had reached the corner, we met a detachment of cannon and musqueteers, who began the attack on the Louvre. A detachment of Swiss was lodged in the apartments on that side, to form a diversion and separate the people; they returned the fire from the windows, and I was obliged to stand the chance of the moment, between my two comrades, who fired with the rest: The Swiss were soon dislodged from their post by the cannon. A few of the people fell at this corner—one man almost at our feet; but when the cannon advanced, so that I could pass them, thanking my two friends for their civility, I took my leave and pursued my way to the Pont Neuf, which was full of wounded and dead men lying on mattrasses, brought for the moment

out of the slaughter. These sights had no attractions to detain me there; I hastened to embrace my family, to whom, thanks be to God! I returned safe: And they, living in a retired quarter of the Fauxbourg St. Germain (though they knew, by the report of the guns, there was some commotion in the city), had not then learnt how serious the affair was; so that, though they were anxious for my safety, they had not suffered so much as they would have done, had they known the particulars. I cannot pretend to say, I saw the after-transactions of that day; since I assure the reader, I had no inclination to risque the same dangers I had escaped from, for further observation: But we heard the report of the musketry and cannon, all the evening. We also saw, from the top of our house, the flames ascending from the Swiss barracks, in front of the Thuilleries.

Towards evening, a Mr. Clermont Tonnerre, who lived in our street, a member of the National Assembly, was seized by the mob in the Rue de Seve, at the back of our house, as he was going home; and accused of being in the secret of the intrigues of the Court. This was enough: They beheaded him with a sabre, in the street; and nearly about the same time his son met the same fate, in the garden of the Thuilleries: He was also a member of the Assembly. The bodies were in the evening conveyed to his house, and this spectacle of horror presented to his wife;

The savages did not murder her with their hands, but nature could not sustain this barbarous shock—she died the next morning of grief. Thus was a whole family, in twelve hours, extinct.

The night at length covered with her sable mantle, a day in which not less than seven or eight thousand people perished: Of the Swiss regiment scarcely a body was left not dismembered. The most diligent search was now made after all such as were supposed to be privy to the plot. The shallow artifice of the King was easily seen through: And beginning with him, they deprived him of the exercise of all his functions, and sent him prisoner, with his family, to the Temple. A tribunal was instituted, to try those who were taken up on suspicion; and a Guillotin, the machine for beheading criminals, erected in the Place de Caroufel, opposite the great gate of the palace, for such as should be convicted. The first who suffered by it, was the Chevalier D'Aigremont, accused of having a principal share in the management of his master's designs: He was condemned at six in the evening, and suffered between nine and ten, dying with great calmness and intrepidity. With no less fortitude, followed M. La Porte, intendant of the civil list: He was condemned for keeping spies in pay, for the purpose of conveying intelligence to the enemy, and of holding a correspondence with the emigrants. He suffered in three hours after his condemnation.—I saw him die.

Du Rosoy, the editor of an aristocratic newspaper, was the next: He had taken very great liberties with the present heads of the nation; and, poor fellow, paid for his wit the forfeit of his head. He told the people, he was proud to die for his King, on the day of St. Louis, which it happened to be.

About this time, the rapid progress of the Prussian arms alarmed the people; and the taking of Longwi and Verdun not a little increased the panic. They were determined to muster an army that should swallow the Austrians; and if numbers could effect it, they were determined to stop their career. But before they went to encounter the enemy, they were resolved to perform some exploits at home. The first thing they set about, was defacing every thing that bore the stamp, or had the least affinity to royalty. The noble statues of Henry IV. on the Pont Neuf, Louis XV. at the Place of that name, Louis XIII. at the Place Vendosme, Louis XIV. at the Place Victoire, and another at the Place Royal; these master-pieces of art, the admiration of travellers, and the ornament of the city, were in an instant overturned; and the metal which composed them, melted down for cannon. Many fine pieces of sculpture, that were trophies of the greatness of their former kings, were now become so many eye-sores to the people, who accordingly pulled them down.

Had their fury stopped here, and their vengeance been only wreaked on stone and statues,

it would have been well: But, grown arrogant in destruction, and insolent in the exercise of lawless power; they resolved on the commission of crimes, that will be an everlasting blot in the annals of France. Every prison was by this time filled with those apprehended on suspicion of being privy to the plot of the 10th of August; and the Guillotin did not appear to the mob to make a sufficient dispatch: Wherefore these gentry, who were at that time literally the rulers of the nation, determined on a speedier course, by taking the executive as well as judicial power into their own hands.

They began with the refractory priests, who had refused taking the oath of fidelity to the new constitution: These had been banished by a decree of the Assembly, and fifteen days allowed them to depart the kingdom in; but a quicker passage was now found them. As many as were in prison were brought out, and massacred in cold blood. This bloody work began on Sunday afternoon, September 2, and spread with most unparalleled fury, in the convent of the Carmes, within a quarter of a mile from us: One hundred and eighty were slaughtered in private houses; in the streets, wherever a priest was found, that was known not to have taken the oath, he was led to the place of butchery.

These monsters had now waded so far in blood, that cruelty became familiar to them; and they were determined to wrest the sword from the
hands

hands of the law, and erect a tribunal of their own. Their manner of proceeding was this: When a formidable band of these armed ruffians had entered one of the prisons, one of them assumed the office of judge; and holding in his hand a list of the names of such as were confined there, he called them over, and the unhappy culprits were obliged to appear when demanded: When the criminal appeared, the judge, laying his hand upon his head, demanded of his fellow-savages, if they might in honour release that man, if his crime was for debt? They answered, No; and he was ordered to pass by such a door, where the mob was ready to receive him. He, from the sentence, expecting no other than immediate death, was agreeably disappointed to find himself ordered to cry, *Vive la Nation!* and enlist for the frontiers. On the other hand, such as were confined on the bare suspicion of treason, when it was demanded if the Nation might acquit them? the jury answered, Yes: A fatal sign for the criminal! who, thinking he was going to be set at liberty, was ordered to pass by a different door, where his executioners were ready to receive him, and he was instantly murdered.

This was all the form of the trials of the new court of justice: What claim it had to that sacred name, the facts themselves determine.

By this bloody process fell M. Montmorin, *ci-devant* minister of France, who had been tried and acquitted of the crimes laid to his charge;

but

but this not contenting the people, he was detained, till their farther pleasure was known. His corpse was dragged through the streets, and treated with indignities too shocking to mention. Major Bachman, the commander of the Swiss guards, an aged and respectable officer, when they seized him, and were going to behead him with their sabres, begged of them to let him die by the Guillotin: This grace was accorded him; and he was accordingly tried and executed, all in the space of an hour.

But among their enormities, none exceeded their treatment of the Princess Lamballe: This lady, the favourite and constant attendant of the Queen, had accompanied her royal mistress to the place of her confinement, to do the necessary offices of a menial servant; that others might not be witnesses to royalty in distress. The merciless mob, ever ready to contribute to the sorrows of the Queen, knowing the friendship between her and this lady, and thinking the dissolving it would cost royalty a pang, entered the Temple, and before her mistress, commanded her to prison. The parting was truly interesting, and worthy of the noble sufferers: The Queen has ever since refused all other attendance; and if she is living at this moment, makes her own bed. The Princess was conducted to the Hotel de Force; and when her crime was read to her, it was, O heinous transgression! an inviolable attachment to her royal mistress. Her judges offered to spare her
 life,

life, if she would cry, *Vive la Nation!* But she, seeing their design was only to mock her, disdain- ed to prostitute her tongue; and firmly answered, “ I have lived as a Princess, I will die as one: I know nothing but my life will content you; take it, it is but one more added to the enormous list of your crimes—they will one day be avenged.”—They took her at her word; and on the spot separated her head from her body, and placing it on a pike, with her entrails on another, they tied a rope round the feet of the naked body, and began a shameful procession through the streets, stopping opposite her house; and to complete their infamy, entering the Temple, com- manded the King and Queen to the window, where they presented them the mangled remains of their beloved and favourite friend. I must add, because I had it from undoubted authority, an instance of human depravity, that the pen of the historian shudders to relate—A monster, in the shape of a man, actually *ate her heart!*

Could a cannibal have done more?

Universal Liberty, they call it; but Madness is its proper name.

Were I to relate particular anecdotes of each unfortunate victim of these commotions, it would fill a volume: Suffice it to say, that no doubt some culpable, but much more innocent, blood was shed. The number of people massacred in the city of Paris only, in the course of forty-eight hours, was estimated at least at ten thousand!

thousand!—Thus had these courageous volunteers proved their valour to their countrymen, by attacking and totally destroying, in cold blood, a number of unarmed men. After parting with the laurels they had thus gained, they went to meet the enemy; singing in a triumphant manner, as if they were returning from a victory, *Ca ira!*

A proof of French courage, which may serve for an epitome of the whole nation, may be gathered from the following fact:

Being a stranger, I had been hitherto exempt from mounting guard; but in these disorderly times, they hinted to me it would be taken well by the Section, if I made a patrol with them; which I accordingly did: And the first night, the company I was in were ordered to mount guard on the Swifs confined in the Palais de Bourbon. This is an immense building, rather like a town than a house; consisting of many spacious courts, all which we had to cross after entering, to arrive at the part where the Swifs were lodged: When the great gate which opened to receive us, shut again, the creaking of the hinges electrified our party; who began to inquire, how many we were? Upon a muster, we found our number forty-eight; they then very naturally inquired the number of the Swifs; which was near two hundred: But the consideration, that we had arms and they had none, kept up our spirits, in crossing the large square and covered-

covered-ways, till we came to the garden which runs by the river side. Here we were stationed, opposite the apartments in which the prisoners were lodged: And here the conversation ran high, on the supposition, if the Swiss should rise, what was to be done? Some few made a show of resistance; but the majority took the more prudent precaution, of looking for the easiest place to get over the wall.—Experienced generals could have done no more than securing a good retreat. Fresh patrols arriving every half-hour, as our numbers increased our hearts gained courage; and some of the most hardy at length ventured to peep into the prisoners apartments, to see how they were employed: When behold, these men, whose imaginary insurrection had given so much uneasiness to their guard, were, almost to a man, fast asleep, on the rich sofas, chairs, and carpets: For, by the bye, their prison was no mean one, being the richest apartments of the Prince Conti, brother to the King, who formerly kept three thousand domestics in livery and constant pay.

“ Cowards are cruel; but the brave

“ Love mercy, and delight to save.”

The latter is not the characteristic of a Frenchman: For the humble situation of the Swiss prisoners could not secure them from the taunts and reproaches of their vain-glorious victors. To such as talked reasonably, the men owned they were betrayed; being promised the support of all

the national guards: And the French nobility, who had sworn to stand by them, when the moment of trial came, were not to be found; being each one concealed in some corner for his personal safety; and they were left alone to stand the chance of the day. How they behaved, thousands of widows and orphans have cause to remember.

The fate of these unfortunate men, who had sold their faith for a paltry bribe and a courtier's promise, was decided among the exploits of the new police: The private men were set at liberty, and the officers put to the sword, their bodies being scattered on the new bridge, formerly called the Pont de Louis XVI. now the Pont de la Liberté. Carts were employed all day long in carrying the dead to pits dug in the fields, where they were thrown in. I met several of these carts, and the wretches capering and singing their favourite air, while trampling on the corpses they had made.

Another patriotic thought fired them at this time, which proved fatal to many of them: This was plundering the tombs and churches of the leaden coffins, to melt down for casting bullets. Upon opening them, a pestilential vapour flew from the bodies, and suffocated numbers; indeed the contagion began to spread so much, that with that, and the vapour from the numbers of dead bodies, a plague was feared as the consequence. A decree therefore was passed, forbidding such attempts in future.

I beg the reader's permission, in this place, to make some corrections on our public papers; whose statements of particular facts, happening at this period in Paris, are exceedingly inaccurate. Their correspondents were certainly misinformed, or, what appears most probable to me, they had no correspondent there; but presuming on the public curiosity, have created some anecdotes, and exaggerated others, which were bad enough before.

For the satisfaction of the public at large, and individuals who may be interested, I beg leave to insert the following:

Three men were condemned to suffer at the Place de Grève, one of them the Abbé Savade, for forging assignats. The priest requested to be taken before the mayor, as he had something of importance to discover: Accordingly his two companions suffered, and he was conducted to the Hotel de Ville; where it appearing his intention was only to cause a fruitless delay of time, he was remanded for execution, which was immediately performed on him. The executioner, taking his head out of the sack in which it dropt, as cruelty was become a fashion, attempted to shew it with a more than ordinary air to the people; and while turning carelessly on his heel with the head in his hand, a sudden convulsion distorted the features, which so terrified the man that he lost his balance; and falling from the scaffold on

the bayonet of a soldier who stood near, was so severely wounded that it occasioned his death.

It is with pleasure I assure the public, that the following persons, positively affirmed in many of our prints to be massacred, are not only alive, but some of them in England :

The Cardinal du Rochefoucault.—A guard was ordered to his house, of which I with difficulty avoided being one: My neighbour on the same stage went. They passed the night in his house, and his papers were examined, but nothing appeared to criminate him.

Both Madame and Mademoiselle Touzel were alive when I left Paris; long after they were killed, in the English papers.

Madame, the Princess Tarrante, I am particularly happy to say, is safe in England: She arrived at the same inn where I was, at Boulogne, two hours after me, and crossed safely to Dover almost immediately.

The shocking anecdotes related of the Countess de Chevre and children are equally untrue; as I assure the public, on the faith of an honest man, no such circumstance ever happened.

The Parisian mob have sufficiently disgraced human nature by their actions; but let even those actions be recorded with truth: Vulgarly speaking, let us give the devil his due. Among their modes of putting people to death, burning them alive was not one: Nor was there any property committed

committed to the flames. I humbly conceive, when the editors of those papers, who thus describe these late events, were preparing them for the press, they had recourse to the riots in London in the year 1780, to piece out their original intelligence from France. For every man, resident in Paris at that time, knows with me, that all property was carefully preserved; even the least felony was punished with instant death: And this conduct, in an otherwise ungovernable mob, was matter of astonishment to me, since they certainly sought not plunder, but life.

In the convent of the Carmes, very near the spot where I lived, both the number and the manner of the massacre are erroneous: When the mob arrived, a strong party went into the garden behind the convent; and some entered, ordering the unfortunate priests (among whom were many bishops, and other dignitaries of the church) to turn out into the garden: The miserable men demanded, if it was to kill them? but received no other answer from their furly butchers, than to go; thus driving them behind, while the rest fell upon them, as they came out, in a body: Yet from this terrible carnage, fourteen escaped over the walls, though most of them wounded: One of these men thus related it to me.

The Parisians determining to settle all accounts with the Swiss, a strong party of the mob was, as it were, dispatched from the main body, to pay a visit to a large Caserne or barracks belonging

longing to them, two leagues from Paris: Here they proceeded in their usual manner, destroying all they found. Meantime, the dreadful example at Paris had excited some commotion at Orleans; and heavy complaints were made, of the number of prisoners confined there. They were accordingly ordered under an escort to Paris; but their executioners met them at Versailles, and out of fifty-four killed fifty-two: The two surviving were saved, on proving that they were only servants attending their masters, and not imprisoned for any crime imputed to them. Among these, fell Monsieur le Duc de Brissac, formerly governor of the city of Paris.

To give some degree of colour to their proceedings, various reasons were assigned; the following were the most popular:

On the Sunday the massacre began, a man condemned for some paltry crime was sitting in a chair, on a scaffold in the Place de Grève, with his crime wrote over his head; which is the punishment of those convicted of petty offences not amounting to felony, who are thus exposed during an hour or two, according to the sentence: This man's time being nearly expired, on a sudden he cried out, "Vive le Roi! Vive la Reine! Vive La Fayette! Au diable la Nation!" This was enough to fire the populace, who seized him, and would have torn him to pieces; but the municipal officers interfered, and begged he might be examined as to what were his motives for
such

such behaviour. It was accordingly circulated, that this frantic wretch confessed he was privy to a plot, which was to be carried into execution as soon as the troops should be parted from Paris; in which all the prisoners were to have their liberty, and arms given them to assist in ravaging and plundering the city. How far this story wore the air of probability, I leave to every man to make his own comment: But the poor lunatic was carried to the Guillotin, and beheaded for his treason. Among the new regulations, an order was now issued, for a general search to be made for arms, in the apartments and private houses of the citizens: Such as concealed any, or refused parting with them, were to be punished with death on the spot, by the guard who made the search. I did not escape my share of this business: Being alarmed one morning, between three and four o'clock, with a violent knocking at the door, which continued incessantly till I opened it, which I did in my shirt; when in rushed a band of ruffians, their behaviour meriting no better term, armed with muskets, sabres, and pikes. I demanded their business; they answered, To search for arms; which they instantly set about, without ceremony. I requested them to have a moment's patience, while my wife slipped on her clothes; and I would give them a sabre (which by the bye cost me thirty livres, but three days before), being all the arms I had: But these polished Frenchmen, or rather French
monsters,

monsters, would not wait; rushing into our chamber, and indecently turning my wife and child out of bed, to search that we had no arms concealed in the matresses. Finding no more, they took my sabre, promising me I should be sure to have it returned, on applying for it at the Section. I applied, and was shewn into a room, where were a few old swords, which I suppose nobody would own; but mine was too handsome to be returned: I never saw it again.

This search for arms was followed by another for horses; and in one afternoon, all the stables of the great hotels and houses of the nobility were stripped; they being obliged to sacrifice all they kept, except two to draw the carriage, for the defence of their country. Nay, they even stopped many of the *fiacres*, or hackney-coaches, and took away the horses, leaving the coach, with its grumbling master, in the street; he scarcely daring to complain, for fear of losing his life, for his want of patriotism, as they would term it.

Indeed, so great was the terror of being taken for an aristocrat, that it was not safe at this time to walk the streets in a round hat, except you chose to be pointed at for a priest.

Every Section was now ordered to furnish its quota of recruits for the frontiers; and they began to draw every tenth man: Many thus drawn were obliged to leave their disconsolate families. But they had no occasion to continue this long; for such numbers

numbers enrolled themselves, that they could not furnish the half with arms: Regimentals were out of the question, except each volunteer could purchase his own. Their appearance answered to Falstaff's description of his company—a shirt and a half among the whole. A lesson or two completed their military education, there being no time to waste: And their drilling was truly laughable for the spectator; for when ordered to face about, they stood like sheep in a pen, some looking one way, some another.

These were the troops sent to reinforce M. Luckner: And the old general very quaintly wrote to the Assembly to recall their volunteers, as men without arms or discipline were no soldiers.

Paris was now pretty well exhausted of fire-arms; that is to say, of muskets: But their place was supplied by the pikes, or sharpened pieces of iron on long poles, like a sergeant's spontoon. All the blacksmiths were exempted from going to the frontiers, that a sufficient quantity of these pikes might be made, to arm the inhabitants.

Every place of amusement was now shut up, and religious rites turned out of the churches, to make room for assemblies of armed men; each Section holding their debates and council in the church belonging to it: A tribune being erected opposite the president's chair, in imitation of the National Assembly, which now began to give place to the grand

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Many of the new deputies being arrived, they took their place in the great hall of the Chateau of the Thuilleries, whither the old Assembly waited on them to congratulate them. Many of the ancient members being chosen into the new senate, particularly the chiefs of the Jacobine party, such as Petion, Talliard, Camus, Brissot, Thuriot, &c. &c.; the first decree they passed, was declaring France to be no longer a monarchic government, but a

R E P U B L I C.

Thus is the gayest and liveliest city in the world—once the seat and fountain of pleasure—changed into a dreary desolated place; where Murder stalks in all its horrors, and Anarchy lets loose her thousand furies, to scourge a miserable people. Commerce is at a total stop; trade and manufactures are no more; Law and Justice are dead, and the wretched inhabitants in danger of falling a prey to an approaching famine, to the enemy's sword, or to the cruelty of their far greater enemies, those within their own walls.

Such a place could have few attractions to detain me longer: I therefore made application for my passport, to return to England, which with much difficulty I obtained; and disposing of my little property as well as I could, I agreed with a horse-dealer for a horse and cabriolé, to take us to Boulogne; and left Paris, where I had

spent formerly many a happy, but lately many an uneasy hour.

The first thing of note on the road, was the new

C A M P,

beginning to be formed round Paris, at the distance of about five English miles: This is to serve as the last stake. It is pretty much advanced on the side of

S T. D E N N I S,

A considerable village or town, six miles from Paris; celebrated for being the burial-place of the French monarchs, who are interred in an ancient but handsome cathedral here. We pursued our journey without interruption, to

E C O E N,

A pleasant little village, twelve miles from Paris. Here we were stopped by the town guard, who very magisterially demanded our passports: Having satisfied these gentlemen, we were suffered to proceed. At the next village, we were ordered to turn out, that the guard might examine the chaise, to see that we had no arms concealed: Having gone through this ceremony, we arrived at

M E N I L A U B R Y,

Where we dined. And I here beg leave to offer a hint, to such as would travel in France with economy:—However singular or awkward it would appear, to see a traveller enter the kitchen

of an English inn, and begin bargaining with the cook for a joint of meat roasting on the spit; it is not only customary, but very necessary, in France; as, should you omit agreeing for the price of every individual article of your dinner before you eat it, you will find the landlord, considering you as a young traveller, will not forget to make you pay swingingly for experience.

After dinner, we jogged on at an orderly pace; till meeting a long train of powder-waggon going to the camp, we were commanded by the advanced guard to turn off the pavé, and wait patiently on one side, till the last waggon had passed, and the rear guard should permit us to proceed: These orders we obeyed; as also to echo several times, *Vive la Nation!* and without molestation reached

C H A N T I L L Y,

Distant from Paris ten leagues. This was our first day's stage: And putting up at a house kept by an English woman, we procured a comfortable dish of tea with toast in the English style. Having some day-light to spare, we employed it in viewing the magnificent palace of the Prince Condé—a description of which I cannot undertake; as instead of an hour, which was all the time we had, we might well have spent a year in contemplating its numerous beauties. The elegant theatre in the garden is decorated with a vast profusion of riches; no expence being spared to render it a place adequate to the amusement of Kings and Princes.

Princes. When they give any particular grand piece, the stage is so contrived that they can lengthen it to an amazing perspective, taking in a large part of the garden, making nature combine with art, to heighten the beauty of the scene. To enter the house, or chateau, which is surrounded with water, you must cross a draw-bridge. The apartments all bespeak the magnificence of the owner: And it was with regret I saw a museum of curiosities of all kinds, collected at an immense expence, celebrated by travellers and connoisseurs as one of the most complete selections in Europe, now deserted by its owner, and left the prey of an insolent and ignorant rabble, who had already begun their depredations here, having stripped the lead from the stables, and thrown down the arms that graced the magnificent portal. These stables contain stalls for one thousand horses, with an amphitheatre for leaping them, and balconies for the spectators. Within them are also commodious places for the dogs: And the architecture of the whole building seems rather a royal palace.

Early next morning we left this charming spot, and reached

C L E R M O N T,

A village situated on a high hill, to breakfast. Here we met great numbers of young recruits going to the frontiers, which we did during the whole day on the road; so that we were perpetually taking off our hats, and bawling, *Vive la Nation!* which is the tribute exacted from every passenger by these gentry. In the evening we were not very well

well pleased to find ourselves obliged to put up with our old quarters, at

B R E T E U I L.

The reader may remember this place in the beginning of our narrative: I am sure if he had once slept there, he never would forget it. However, I this time prevailed on the chamber-maid to let us have a less apartment than we had before, that we might at least console ourselves by conceiving we slept in a room, and not in a dungeon. We rose at day-break, and pursued our journey to

A M I E N S.

Having given a sketch of this city, I shall only observe, that unfortunately we arrived on a maigre day: I say unfortunately, for we had travelled all that day, and it was then two o'clock, without breaking our fast; and when I inquired what we could have for dinner, they told me milk, or soup maigre, which is much the same. It was with much persuasion we prevailed on the bigotted Picards to kill us a fowl and roast it: They would not have partaken of it, I suppose, on any account. However, we got a dinner at last, and departed for

F L I X C O U R,

Where we supped, and slept at a very comfortable, and what is not very common in France, a very clean house. The next morning we reached

A B B E V I L L E,

To breakfast: And pushing on pretty much that day, in the evening gained

M O N T R E A L.

In the morning I took a walk on the ramparts, to view the fortifications. Its situation on a hill, renders it strong by nature, but they have spared no pains to give it the additional strength of art: And it is esteemed one of the strongest places in this part of France. The town is neat, and exceedingly clean; the houses well built. The prospect from the ramparts is extensive, and over a pleasant country. A small river surrounds the place, which is about two miles in circuit. We breakfasted here, having but seven leagues to Boulogne.

About the half-way, at

S A M M I E,

We were stopped; and on my alighting from the chaise, a file of musqueteers surrounded me, whose officer demanded our passports, which he examined very minutely, regarding our persons to see if the description tallied with them: This learned body being satisfied, they returned them, and suffered us to proceed. When we arrived within half a league of Boulogne, being on high ground and the weather clear, we had a most charming view of the town and port: But what crowned the prospect, and afforded us the most pleasing sensations, was the white cliffs of England, which bounded the view.

We again passed examination, before we were permitted to enter

B O U L O G N E ;

Which, excepting its situation on the French coast, might

might without impropriety be called an English town; the inhabitants being two-thirds English, and the houses built of brick: We thought ourselves at home here. We slept at the Star, an excellent inn, kept by Mr. Knowles, where I would also recommend my countrymen who travel that way.

The next morning we were conducted before a little hump-backed Abbé, the municipal officer of the town, who was to sign our passports, before we could embark; he received us very politely, and signed them immediately. But we had yet another ceremony, which was, to take them to the corps de garde, to deposit them with the commanding officer: This gentleman chose to embarrass us a little, because the Abbé had not signed all the papers, which he said was necessary; he was for detaining us, and sending us back to the Abbé, to know the reason of it. The packet was then ready to sail; and if this gentleman's obstinacy had not been over-ruled by his colleagues in office, we might probably have staid in France another tide. However, his scruples subsiding, we embarked, and with a fair wind steered out of the harbour; leaving with joyful hearts a country in which we had, through divine Providence, escaped many imminent dangers. We had a pleasant passage of five hours, and landed at Dover about five o'clock in the afternoon of Monday the 17th of September 1792, having been absent from England nine months.

2



