

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, May 26, 1808.

REVOLUTION IN SPAIN.

The following interesting particulars of the affairs of Spain, were received at Boston in a letter from Alicant, dated 27th March, 1808.

“On the 17th inst. the rumour being spread at Aranjuez, that the king and royal family were making preparations to set out for Cadiz, there to embark on board the English Squadron, it caused a great fermentation amongst the people. At eleven o'clock at night, about 40,000 peasants from the neighbourhood made their appearance, surrounded the palace, and insisted on seeing their majesties, who were of course under the necessity of shewing themselves at the balcony. The Prince of Peace, who had already placed a great number of coaches and post horses along the road, took this opportunity of telling their majesties that their lives were in danger, and that no time must be lost in making their escape. The prince of Asturias (who has always been an enemy to the Prince of Peace) found means of informing one of his guards of what was going forward, desiring him to tell the rest that if they would protect him, he was resolved not to quit the country, and even to jump out of the carriage if taken away by force. Every thing being ready, orders were given to the *Guards du Corps* to disperse the populace, and even to fire upon them; instead of which, these troops went to the palace of the Prince of Peace, forced his guard, and searched for him without success. His wife was found and treated with the greatest respect, as being cousin to the king; she was placed in a carriage, and drawn to the royal palace by the populace.

“In the meanwhile, Marquis Caballero, minister of Grace and Justice, took this opportunity of informing the king, that attempting to leave the country would be in vain; that his majesty had nothing to fear from the French troops, (then at 11 leagues distance) and that the prince of peace was a traitor to his country and his king. The council of Castile was assembled, and their advice was unanimously to the same purpose—the king then issued a proclamation, withdrawing from the Prince of Peace the titles of generalissimo and high admiral; but this did not appease the people, who continued to insist on the prince of Asturias being proclaimed king. At last, the king finding there was no other remedy, issued a 2d proclamation on the 20th, by which he resigns his crown to his son, who was accordingly proclaimed to the great satisfaction of the whole nation. One of his first steps has been to confiscate all the property which the Prince of Peace had usurped from the nation, amounting to some hundred millions of dollars, (having appropriated to himself the whole produce of the lands of the clergy which have been selling for some years past) 22,500 vales reales of 600 dollars each have been found, and an immense quantity of gold. He is now arrested and going to be tried—he had been hidden for near two days in a garret of his palace, but pressed by hunger and thirst, he declared himself to one of the guards, who immediately secured him. It is now discovered, that he had sent orders to the governor of Ceuta to surrender to the English—it also appears certain that M. Valdes, commander of the Squadron that sailed last month from Carthagena, had orders to go to Gibraltar and surrender himself, but he put into Mahon, under pretext of an accident, and one Saloedo was immediately sent to supersede him, but is expected he will not have arrived in time.

“La Senora Josefa Tuda, mistress of the Prince of Peace, set out for Cadiz on the 15th with all the money that was left in the treasury; detachments of hussars have been sent after her; but it is feared she is already on board the English fleet. It seems the plan of this man was to take the royal family over to Spanish America, make a peace with England, destroy the prince of Asturias, (which was already attempted in October last) and get himself appointed regent of that country, if not king. The French government had secret advice of this plot, and sent troops by all quarters, with the pretext of an attack against Algiers and Gibraltar, and it was too late when he discovered the real object of this visit. Whatever be his fate, it is not probable that the immense property he has in the bank of London, will ever be recovered by the nation. All the people in exile by his orders are recalled to court. Eldrada Blanca is expected to be prime minister; the duke of Infantado lately exiled by him, is appointed president of the council and colonel of the Spanish guards; the duke of Medinaceli and count Fernan Nunez, are sent to compliment the French emperor at Burgos and conduct him to Madrid: no blood has been spilt, but several houses of his partizans have been plundered and destroyed by the mob—amongst them, are those of Soler the minister; Noriega the treasurer general; Sixto Espinosa, cashier of the consolidation; Truxillo, late governor of Malaga, and brother-in-law to the Prince of Peace.—The king and queen have asked to retire to Granada or St. Lucar, but the council has opposed it as being too near the coast; they are allowed to choose between Guadalaxara and Arenas, a small place in the centre of Castile.”

Extract of another letter from Alicant, dated March 27, 1808.

“On the 18th inst. at 9 in the evening, an order arrived from the generalissimo the Prince of Peace, to the Spanish and Waloon guards and other troops, stationed round and doing garrison service at Madrid

to march without delay to Aranjuez, where they arrived the next morning, to the number of 10,000. A novelty of such a nature, and at such a time, induced a multitude of people to follow them, amongst which a report was diligently circulated, that their majesties and the Prince of Peace, intended to retire to Gibraltar, and from thence to America, as had been done by the Portuguese royal family. Impressed with this idea, the mob collected in the grand square, before the palace, about 10 o'clock in the evening, crying *Long live the King and kill the traitor!* Caballero, the first secretary of state, immediately proceeded to the royal apartment, where he found the king and queen together much alarmed; while he was endeavouring to calm their apprehensions, the Prince of Peace entered in apparent consternation, and entreated their majesties to disguise themselves immediately and make their escape, as the people meditated mischief against them. The secretary assured them that it was false; that they expressed the greatest love and loyalty for his majesty's person, and only sought revenge on a traitor. And who is he? cried the Prince of Peace. You, said Caballero. The former drew his sword and attempted to stab him; but the king interfering, the latter had time to retire, and take with him the Prince of Asturias, to be protection of the guard de corps.—The 20th, *Charles IVth. abdicated the throne, to his son the Prince of Asturias, who is now proclaimed as Ferdinand the VIIth.*”

Extract of another letter from Alicant, dated March 27, 1808.

“The post from Madrid brings advice of the ascension to the throne of Spain of Ferdinand VII. The king of Spain and his queen have retired to their palace at Pardo, a few miles to the northward of Madrid. Charles has resigned in favour of his son, but it is not thought to be altogether voluntarily. The Prince of Peace and his brother are in close confinement; their titles, honours and incalculable property, return to the crown; they will have a public trial, and a need not be doubted, a public punishment. The joy in Spain is universal, and the people are perfectly tranquil.”

Extract of a letter from Cadiz, dated March 28, 1808.

“The Prince of Peace has been arrested and imprisoned; the king has abdicated his throne, and the Prince of Asturias has been proclaimed king under the title of Ferdinand the VIIth. Buonaparte is in Madrid, and has officially announced his determination to take possession of this country, under the plea of defending it from the English.”

ROYAL DECREE.

By an order of his majesty communicated this evening by the most excellent Signior Marquis Caballero, to the most illustrious Signior President pro tempore of the council, it is intimated to the latter, that our lord the king has been pleased to authorize the Prince of Asturias to institute a prosecution according to law, against Don Manuel Godoy, now a prisoner—and the council being informed of this circumstance, has decreed that the order of his majesty be announced to the public, together with another in which it appears that the property and effects in the houses which the said Don Manuel Godoy, inhabited, belonging to his majesty; in order that the inhabitants of this city, relying on his justice, and that of the council, may be tranquil, as is expected from their loyalty; and that all persons may retire to their houses immediately; that under no pretence may the well known fidelity and submission of the inhabitants of this place be rendered doubtful, nor this Supreme Tribunal obliged to take different measures.

A true copy,

D. BARTHOLOMEW MUNOZ.

Madrid, 19th March, 1808.

Don Bartholomew Munoz de Terres, of the council of H. M. his secretary, clerk of the most ancient chamber and governor of the council:

I certify that the following royal order has been communicated to the governor pro tempore of the council by H. E. Don Pedro Cavellos, first secretary of state and of dispatch.

SIR,

One of the first cares of the king, our lord, after coming to the throne, was to inform the emperor of the French and king of Italy, of this happy event; assuring at the same time his imperial and royal majesty, that animated by the same sentiments as his august father, far from varying in the smallest particular the political system with respect to France, he will endeavour by all possible means, to draw closer the ties of amity and strict alliance, which happily subsist between Spain and the French empire. His majesty orders me to communicate it to you, in order that by publishing it in the council, that tribunal may, in consequence, take all the measures for restoring the public tranquility in Madrid; and to receive and afford to the French troops who are prepared to enter that city, all the assistance they may need—endeavouring to persuade the people that they come as friends, and with views useful to the king and to the nation.

His majesty promises himself from the wisdom of the council, that feeling all the lively desires which animate him to confirm daily still more, the strict ties which bind his majesty to the emperor of the French and king of Italy, the council will endeavour by all the means in their power, to inspire with the same sentiments all the inhabitants of Madrid. God preserve you, &c.

PEDRO CAVALLOS,

Aranjuez, 20th March, 1808.

The following article was received by the editor of the Aurora from Cadiz, enclosing the Cadiz Gazette, in which are the decrees announcing the elevation of Ferdinand VII, and the confiscation of the fortune and effects of Don Manuel Godoy, (Prince of Peace.)

“CADIZ, 31st March, 1808.

“Buonaparte was to enter Madrid on the 27th inst. as announced in a proclamation by the king of Spain; on the 25th, 27,000 French troops had already entered that capital, and 23,000 more were daily expected.—The French emperor has announced, thro' the Spanish government, his determination to occupy Cadiz to preserve it from the English. The ministers, Soler, Espinosa, Noriega, and all the partizans of the Prince of Peace, are arrested or fled.—The old king Charles IV. with Louisa his queen, are ordered by the council to retire to Guadalaxara, a small town 10 leagues from Madrid.”

Edict of Don Arias Antonio Mon y Veteade, Decano governor pro tempore of the council.

In various orders which I have just received, the king our lord, Ferdinand the VIIth. has been pleased to acquaint me that he has resolved to confiscate immediately, all the goods and effects, actions and rights of Don Manuel Godoy, whereforever they may be; for which purpose, he has taken the most proper measures, in order that they may be confiscated to his majesty: that he has determined to come immediately to this city to proclaim himself; but that he wishes that the people of Madrid, so attached and loyal to his royal person, should first give proof of rest and tranquillity. He has therefore given the most effectual orders against Don Manuel Godoy, his goods and rents, which no longer belong to him. That he is seriously meditating upon the means of redressing his loving subjects, who have suffered in his cause: and that he will continually watch, and will not cease to take every measure calculated for their happiness. And finally, his majesty advises me, that he has appointed as colonel of his royal Spanish guards, the duke del Infantado; conferring at the same time upon him the Presidency of Castile. The king, our lord, has also granted that all the persons confined, for what was done in his royal palace of San Lorenzo, should return to the presence of his majesty. And that it may be known to all, and that the loyal city of Madrid may be apprised how much the king watches over their happiness and satisfaction, he has ordered me to publish this, as I do by these presents. Madrid, 20th March, 1808.

D. ARIAS MON.

Appointments by the new King.

The duke of Infantado to be governor of the council, and colonel of the Spanish guards; duke of St. Carlos steward of the palace; Caballero, the former minister of grace and justice, is made grandee of Spain and president of the council of orders; Jovellanos, minister of justice and grace; Aranza, the minister at Paris, is appointed governor of the council of Horunda; count Florida Blanca, deacon of the council of state; the archbishop of Toledo, patriarch general O'Farrell, director general of the artillery.

The noblemen accused of combining against the life of the king some months since with the Prince of Asturias, have all been pardoned.

In some papers we find the new monarch of Spain denominated emperor.

At Madrid the following houses were destroyed the occupants of which were attached to the Prince of Peace:

The house of Don Diego Godoy, brother to the Prince; of lieut. gen. Branchifort, cousin to duke of Duros, the prince's confessor; of Marquina, mayor; of Noriega, treasurer general; of Espinosa and Cordova, loan officers; and of Soler, minister of the council of Horunda.

In consequence of the changes in Madrid, the revolutionary besom will be exercised in all the Spanish colonies. In most instances the principal officers have been appointed by the advice of the Prince of Peace.

A letter by the Connecticut states, that the news the Prince of Peace having been beheaded, was received at St. Lucar by a telegraphic dispatch.

We learn verbally that for fourteen days previous to the execution of the Prince of Peace, he was brought out of his prison, and exposed in the public market place to the insults and derision of the populace. In the orders respecting the confiscation his property he is designated only as Don Manuel Godoy.

[New-York Mer. Adv.]

By the arrival of the brig Prudence, which Bourdeaux on the first ultimo, we have been in possession of a file of Paris Moniteurs down to 22d March. There is not a trace in them of the revolution which was then to take place in Spain; a word of the visit that Napoleon was apparently the eve of paying to that devoted kingdom. A mysterious veil hangs immovable upon every scene that arbitrary ruler of Europe.

[L'Orateur]

General VICTOR MOREAU arrived at New-York on the 17th inst. from New-Orleans.

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