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PRUSSIAN MANIFESTO.

LONDON, Oct. 21.

We this day lay before the public a translation of the King of Prussia's Manifesto This important document was issued at the head-quarters at Erfurt, on the 9th inst. and was published in the *Hamburgh Correspondenten* of the 15th and 17th inst.

It is clear, from this very interesting State Paper, that the Prussian ultimatum once rejected, no arbitrament but that of the sword, could decide the numerous and increasing grounds of difference which subsisted between Prussia and France. From the tenor of the Manifesto, we are persuaded that his Prussian Majesty has determined to endure the last extremity rather than submit to the unceasing insults and encroachments of France All these, as well as the forbearance and partiality of Prussia towards France, are enumerated with a minuteness, and accompanied with that tone of observation which demonstrates that the former considers himself as treated with the most atrocious injustice and the blackest ingratitude.

We should not be surprised to see the war between Prussia and France assume something of a personal, and particularly acrimonious, character. There are some passages in the Manifesto which Bonaparte must feel strongly. The murder of the Duke d'Enghien; the kidnapping of Sir G. Rumbold; the robberies committed, under the name of loans, upon the Hanse Towns; the suggestion of what he might have done for the happiness of France, and the peace of Europe; and the little hopes of future tranquility, which are to be expected from his restless and unbounded ambition, are all calculated to gall and irritate the irascible disposition of Bonaparte The allusion to the first circumstance, in particular, contains in it grounds enough for a war of extermination. The Usurper will never forgive the reference to that foul and atrocious midnight murder.

In point of arrangement and composition, this Manifesto is not exceeded by any document of a similar nature in modern diplomacy. It is, beyond doubt, the most forcible appeal against the dangers of French ambition which has yet appeared. The facts stated in it are undeniable—uncontrovertible. There is not a State in Europe which cannot bear testimony to them; there is scarcely one in which their effects are not felt.—We shall be much disappointed if it does not produce, and particularly in the empire, a very great sensation indeed.

MANIFESTO.

AS His Majesty the KING of PRUSSIA has taken up arms for the defence of his people, he thinks it necessary to lay before them, and all Europe, the circumstances which have imposed this duty on his Majesty.

The politics of France have been the scourge of humanity during the last fifteen years. Those men who, in rapid succession, have been at the head of affairs in that country, have only sought the means of their dominion in war, and the guarantee of their existence in the wretchedness of the people, may be viewed without astonishment—But the introduction of a regular government, to which the same necessity could not be imputed, gave new life to the hopes of the friends of peace. Napoleon, invested with the supreme power, victorious, surrounded by weaker States, friendly disposed governments, or conquered and exhausted rivals, had it in his power to perform a better part. For the greatness of France, nothing more remained for him to do; for her happiness, every thing was in his power.

It is painful to be compelled to say, that French politics still remained the same. An insatiable ambition was still the ruling passion of France.—She made use of arms and of treaties with the same view. The peace of Amiens was scarcely concluded, before the signal for the first acts of violence followed. Holland and Switzerland, two independent states, were compelled to accept a constitution, which converted them into French Provinces. The renewal of war was the consequence.

Peace, however, still continued upon the continent. The German Empire had purchased it by incalculable sacrifices. In the midst of this peace, nevertheless, the French troops invaded the Electorate of Hanover; a country which had no concern in the war between France and England, while the ports of Germany were shut against the British flag; and the better to effect the object, France took possession of Cuxhaven, and the territory of a free state, which was still more a stranger to the war than Hanover.

In the midst of this peace also, the same troops, a few months after, violated the German territory in such a manner as to wound the honour of the nation still deeper. The Germans have never avenged the death of the Duke D'Enghien; but the remembrance of that event will never be extinguished among them.

The treaty of Luneville guaranteed the independence of the Italian Republic. In spite of the most positive assurances, did Napoleon place the Iron Crown of Italy upon his own head Genoa was incorporated with France. Lucca was very near sharing the same fate. Only a few months before had the Emperor, on a solemn occasion—an occasion which imposed very important duties upon him—declared before his people and before all Europe, that he wished not to extend the limits of his territory. Besides, France was bound, by a treaty with Russia, to put the King of Sardinia in possession of indemnities in Italy. Instead of fulfilling that obligation she made herself mistress of every object which could have been serviceable towards that indemnification.

Portugal wished to maintain her neutrality, but Portugal was compelled to purchase by gold the deceitful security of a few moments.

The Porte, who had not forgotten the invasion of Syria and Egypt, was the only power remaining in Europe which had not been subjected to the arbitrary proceedings of France

But to these acts of violence, a system of abuse and injury remained still to be added. A Journal, which proclaimed itself the voice of Government, was chosen as a chronicle of the attacks incessantly made upon every crowned head.

Prussia could be no stranger to any of these general acts of oppression. Many of them were nearly connected with her substantial interests; especially as the wisdom of that system which considers the states of Europe as members of the same family, calls upon each of them for the defence of all; and that the unbounded aggrandizement of one state exposed the rest to danger, was sufficiently manifest to experience.

Still it is most essentially necessary to represent in what manner the conduct of France was calculated to operate in its immediate relation to Prussia.

It were superfluous to enumerate all the good offices rendered to Napoleon by Prussia;—Prussia was the first Power that acknowledged him. No promises, no menaces had been able to shake the king's neutrality. Every thing that the duty of a good neighbour could prescribe was most amply afforded during a period of six years. Prussia esteemed a valiant nation, which also had learned, on its part, to respect Prussia both in war and peace; and she did justice to the genius of its Chief. But the remembrance of these times is no longer retained by Napoleon.

Prussia had permitted the territory of Hanover to be invaded. In this she had countenanced an act of injustice; therefore was it her first view to remedy it. She offered herself for it instead of England, under the condition that the latter should cede it. It must, however, at least be recollected, that thus a boundary was prescribed to France, which she should not pass. Napoleon solemnly pledged himself not to compromise the neutrality of the Northern States; to exercise no violence towards any of them; and, in particular, not to increase the number of troops in the Electorate of Hanover.

Scarcely had he agreed to these stipulations, than he broke them. Every one is acquainted with the violent manner in which Sir George Rumbold was seized; every one knows that the Hanse Towns were laid under contribution, under the appellation of loans, not by any means, for their interest, but exactly in the same manner as if France had been at war with them. For the first of these injuries, his Majesty contented himself with accepting an inadequate satisfaction. Of the second he took no cognizance, being prevented by the apprehensions, and representations on the part of the Hanse Towns. His Majesty, on his part, did not scruple to make any sacrifice, as the preservation of peace was the dearest wish of his heart.

The patience and sufferance of every other Court, were exhausted sooner than that of his Majesty. War again broke out on the Continent—the situation of the King, with respect to his duty, was more difficult than ever In order to prevent France from augmenting her troops in Hanover, he had promised to suffer no attack to be made on that territory. The Russians and the Swedes were preparing for an attack upon the French. From this period, the whole burden of the contract between France and Prussia weighed upon the latter only, without producing to her the least advantage; and by a singular concatenation of circumstances, it seemed that Prussia, who only wished to remain impartial and neutral, could no longer pursue her former system, except to the prejudice of the Allied Powers. Every advantage which resulted from this situation of affairs was on the side of France; and the King was daily threatened with a collision, not less formidable to him, than decisively favorable to the plans of Napoleon.

Who could have thought that the very moment when the King had given to the French government the strongest proof of his determination, and a singular example of the faithful fulfilment of engagements into which he had once entered should be chosen by Napoleon to do the King the most sensible injury? Who does not remember the violation of the territory of Anspach, which took place on the 3d October in the last year, notwithstanding the remonstrance of the provincial administration, and of his Majesty's Minister?

This contest between that moderation which pardons every thing—that integrity which remains true to its engagements to the last on the one part; and the abuse of power, the insolence inspired by deceitful fortune, and the habit of only reckoning on the other, continued several years. The King declared to the French government that he considered all his connections with it as dissolved. He placed his armies on a footing suitable to circumstances. He was now fully convinced, that no pledge of security remained for the neighbours of France, but a peace established upon firm principles, and guaranteed by all the Powers in common.

His Majesty offered the Allies to be the mediator in negociations for such a peace, and to support them with all his force. It is sufficient to know the conditions then proposed, to be convinced of the moderation which, at all times, has governed the politics of his Majesty in their whole extent Prussia, at this moment, listened not to the voice of revenge; she passed over the events of the late war, however violent they might have been, since they had been sanctioned by existing treaties She required nothing but the punctual fulfilment of those treaties; but this she required without limitation. Count Haugwitz repaired to Vienna, where the French Emperor then was. Scarcely had this Minister been there a few days, when the whole face of affairs was changed; the misfortunes experienced by the Court of Vienna had compelled it to sign an armistice, which was immediately followed by a peace. The Emperor of Russia sacrificed his magnanimous views to the wish of his Ally, and his troops returned home. Prussia stood now alone on the field of contest. His Majesty was obliged to limit his policy by his powers; and instead, as had been his wish, of embracing the interest of all Europe, make his own security and that of his neighbours, his first object.

[The Manifesto then proceeds to recite at length the conduct of Bonaparte with respect to Cleves, Wesel, Hanover, &c.]

It was no longer doubtful that Napoleon had determined to overwhelm Prussia with war, or to render her forever incapable of war, since it was evident he was leading her from humiliation to humiliation, till she should be reduced to such a state of political degradation and feebleness, that she could have no other will than that of her formidable neighbour.

The last doubt at length disappeared; troops marched from the interior of France towards the Rhine. The intent to attack Prussia was clear and certain. The King ordered a Note to be transmitted by General Knobelsdorf, containing the conditions which he was ready to come to an accommodation. These conditions were.

1. That the French troops should immediately evacuate Germany.

2. That France should oppose no obstacle to the formation of the Northern Confederacy; and that this Confederacy, might embrace all the larger and smaller States not included in the fundamental Act of the Confederation of the Rhine.

3. That a Negociation should immediately be commenced for the adjustment of all objects in dispute;—a preliminary article of which should be, the restoration of three Abbeys, and the separation of the town of Wesel from the French Empire

These conditions speak for themselves: they shew how moderate the King has been in his demands, even at this moment, and how much the maintenance of peace, if France wishes peace, depends upon herself.

The term peremptorily fixed by the King, for the decision of peace or war has elapsed. His Majesty has not received the answer of the Cabinet of St. Cloud; or rather, the preparations made around him, daily, give that answer. The King can henceforth confide the safety and honour of his crown only to arms. He leads to honourable combat an army worthy its former glory. He reigns over a people of whom he may be proud; and while he is ready to shed his blood for them, he knows what he may expect from energy and affection. Princes, the honour of the German name, have joined their banners with his; and a Sovereign who honours with his virtues one of the first thrones in the world, is penetrated with the justice of his cause. His arms are blessed by the voice of his people. With so many motives to be conscious of his strength, Prussia may be permitted continually to confide in her high destiny.

The French Emperor proposed to Count Haugwitz a treaty on which was stipulated, on the one side a mutual guarantee of possessions, the inviolability of the Turkish territory, and the results of the peace of Presburg; and, on the other, the taking possession of Hanover by Prussia, in return for the cession of three provinces.

The first part of this Treaty promised, at least for the future, an acknowledged, guaranteed, and if Napoleon had so pleased, a firm, political Constitution. The results of the peace of Presburg were a general misfortune for Europe, but Prussia sacrificed herself also when she accepted them; and to place a limit to the incessant usurpation of France, should the treaty be considered by the Court of St. Cloud as any thing more than words, appeared an advantage: the king therefore, ratified this article unconditionally.

The second half of the Treaty of Vienna related to an object, the importance of which had been manifested by serious experience. Prussia could not rely on security for a moment, so long as Hanover remained involved in a war, in which that country had, in fact, no concern. At whatever price it might be purchased, Prussia was resolved that the French should not return thither. She had her choice to obtain this end either by a treaty or a war. The cession of three provinces, which had been faithful and happy for a long series of years, was a sacrifice not to be made for the plan of vain motion; but these, provinces, in case of a war, would have been the first sufferers; all the calamities of that war would have pressed upon the Monarchy; while the acquisition of Hanover, could it have been made under less unhappy circumstances, would have been productive of the most valuable advantages to Prussia The King, therefore, conceived, that he reconciled his wishes with his principles, when he accepted the proposed exchange, only under the condition, that the fulfilment of the same should be deferred till the general peace, and the consent of his Majesty the King of Great Britain should be obtained.

All the advantages of this treaty were for France. On the one side, she received guarantees, which put the seal on her conquests; on the other, she gave what she did not possess, what might be again conquered by the conquests for one more in war; while in the possessions of Prussia she found the means of enriching her Allies.

But between a policy which will do every thing in its power, and an integrity which regards its duties, and especially its promises, the contest is ever unequal. The king approached the moment when he was convinced of this by experience: this moment was the most painful of his reign.

It was the affair of France to reject the modifications under which the King had confirmed the treaty, if she did not approve them. But she avoided doing this, for the whole Prussian army was still under arms. She continued to lavish all forces of friendship: she fulfilled the treaty as far as it suited her; but when his Majesty wished to repel every advantage which he had proposed to himself from the late negociations, and which was nearest to his heart, she suddenly altered her language. The modifications, added to the treaty of Vienna, were now rejected at Paris. In every instance were made to force Prussia into the most injurious measures; and when Count Haugwitz, who was at Paris, remonstrated against this, the unconditional fulfilment of the treaty was haughtily insisted on, as were the immediate cession of the three provinces, and the treaty of peace by which the occupation of Hanover was declared provisional. Prussia was required to resign a part of the advantages it gained, and to shut the ports against the British flag in the same manner as the French had returned into the Electorate.

The king, at length, was perfectly convinced of the true character of the friendship of the Emperor of the French—a superficial ... for a power which still feels its own strength; an insult unmerited ... and a ready ... to every power which no longer possesses strength.

In the mean time, Napoleon was in possession of every advantage. The Prussian army had returned; his own, after some movements of no consequence, at which deceived Germany prematurely rejoiced, on some frivolous pretences, established itself on this side of the Rhine. The first conflict might produce misfortunes. War, which is not, under all circumstances the greatest of evil, might become such under those then existing. The King determined to continue the part he had hitherto acted for some time longer. Wishing to preserve his force, now more than ever necessary to Europe, and at the least to secure the tranquility of the North he confirmed the new treaty. Confidence, however, was now utterly lost. Prussia was convinced that, on the first opportunity to weaken her without danger, she might expect an attack from her pretended ally; convinced there is a degree of ambition which nothing can satisfy—which proceeds, without intermission, from usurpation to usurpation, sometimes without a plan, but ever intent on destruction; careless of the choice of means, and employing alike arms, and the pen, violence, and oaths. But even with this conviction, so great is the unfortunate superiority obtained by such policy, over those who wish only to be just, the King fulfiled all conditions of the Treaty with the punctuality of a faithful Ally. It is known what the consequences were with respect to the connections of his Majesty with England. France gained nothing by this; but she triumphed in secret at the thought of having disunited two Courts the union of which might have been dangerous to her; and what, in the view of France, gave the principal value to her alliance with the King was that this alliance insolated his Majesty, since it produced an opinion, that Prussia was a participator in the cause of so many misfortunes.

But not content with this, we shall soon see in what manner the politics of France, assured that she had now no enemy to fear, believing that she had annihilated Austria, forming a judgment of Russia with equal ignorance and rashness, and blinded by the apparent tranquility of Prussia, she at length threw off the mask and despising forms which she had hitherto sometimes respected openly trampled on all treaties and all rights. Three months after the signing of the Treaty with Prussia, all its articles were violated.

The treaty had for its basis the *status quo* of the moment in which it was concluded, also the guarantee of the German empire and its States according to the constitution then established. This truth arises not only from the nature of things; the treaty had also expressly prescribed to the two powers their duties. The relations in which the peace of Presburg had left his Majesty the Emperor of Austria were guaranteed to him; consequently also the Imperial Crown of Germany, and the rights connected with it. The existence of Bavaria and consequently the relations which had connected it for so many centuries to the empire, likewise confirmed by the same common guarantee. Three months after, the Confederation of the Rhine overthrew the Germanic constitution, deprived the Emperor of the ancient ornament of his house, and placed Bavaria, and thirty other princes, under the tutelage of France.

But it is necessary to appeal to treaties to form a just judgment of this extraordinary event—Previous to all treaties, nations have their rights; and had not France sported with the sanctity of an oath, the act of unexampled despotism would exasperate every mind. To deprive princes who had never offended France and to render them the vassals of others, themselves the vassals of the French government—to abolish with a stroke of the pen, a constitution of a thousand years duration—which long habit, the remembrance of so many illustrious periods and so many various and mutual relations, had rendered dear to such a number of princes—which had so often been guaranteed by all the European powers, and even by France herself—to lay contributions on the cities and towns in the midst of profound peace, and leave the new possessions only an exhausted skeleton—to abolish this constitution without consulting the emperor of Germany, from whom a crown was wrested, or Russia, so lately became the guarantee of the German league, or Prussia, so ... intimately in that league thus arbitrarily dissolved. Numbers of wars and continued victories have sometimes produced great and remarkable catastrophes; but such an example in times of peace was never before given to the world.

The king commiserated the unfortunate princes who suffered by these transactions; but he pitied not less those who had suffered themselves to be lured by the hope of gain; and he would reproach himself, should he increase their unhappiness by judging them with too great a severity. Deluded by the reward of their compliance; probably forced to obey commands which admitted of no opposition, or, if surprised into consent, sufficiently punished by their acquisitions, and by being reduced to a state of vassalage, as harsh and degrading as their relations where honorable, they deserve not to be treated by Germany with the utmost rigour.—Perhaps, when the magnanimous nation to which they formerly belonged, arises around them on every side to contend for their independence, they may listen to the voice of gratitude and honor, and, at least, abhor their chains, when they find they must be stained with the blood of their brethren.

It was not enough that these despotic acts were immediately injurious to Prussia. The emperor of France was intent on rendering them sensible to the person of the King in all his states. The existence of the Prince of Orange was under the common guarantee of the two powers; for the king had acknowledged the political changes in Holland only under this condition. For several years this prince had expected that his claims, secured by the mutual stipulations of Prussia and France, should be satisfied The Batavian republic had been willing to enter in an accommodation, but the emperor Napoleon forbade it. Neither the recollection of the circumstance, nor the consideration of the ties of blood which united his majesty to the prince, nor the declaration, twenty times repeated, that the king could not defeat the rights of his brother-in-law, could prevent his being added to the heap of victims He was the first who was deprived of paternal property. Eight days before, he had received from the emperor a letter, conceiving with him in the customary forms, on the death of his father, and wishing him joy on his undisturbed succession to the states of his house. None of these circumstances are unimportant; each throws a light on the whole.

Cleves had been allotted to Prince Murat—Scarcely became a sovereign, he wished likewise to be a conqueror. His troops took possession of the Abbies of Essen, Werden and Elten, under the pretext that they appertained to the Duchy of Cleves, though they were entirely territories newly acquired, and there was not the shadow of a connection between them and the ceded province. Great labor was employed, in vain, to give even a color to this outrage.

Wesel was to belong to the new duke, not to the emperor Napoleon. The king had never refused to give up the last fortress on the Rhine into the power of France. Without a word by way of explanation, Wesel was annexed to a French department.

The existing state of the Austrian monarchy, and of the Porte, had been mutually guaranteed The emperor Napoleon certainly wished that Prussia should be bound by this guarantee; for in his hands it was an instrument which he might employ as suited his politics, a pretext for demanding sacrifices in a contest which his ambition might occasion. He himself, however, did not observe it longer than it contributed to his interest. Ragusa, though under the protection of the Porte, was taken possession of by his troops. Gradiska and Aquileia were wrested from Austria, under nearly the same pretexts which had been employed when the French seized the Three Abbies.

In all political proceedings it was naturally taken for granted, that the new States formed by France, were States in the proper sense of the term, and not French provinces But it cost the cabinet of St. Cloud only a word to deprive them of their independence. The appellation *The Great Empire*, was invented, and that empire was immediately surrounded with vassals.

Thus there was no trace of the treaty left, and Prussia proceeded to shut her ports against England, and still considered herself as having obligations to fulfil.

The emperor, at length, informed his majesty that it was his pleasure to dissolve the German empire, and form a confederation of the Rhine, and he recommended to the king to establish a similar confederation in the North of Germany. This was according to his customary policy; a policy which had long been crowned with success; at the moment of the birth day of any new project to throw out a lure to those courts which might occasion difficulties in the execution of such project. The king adopted the idea of such a confederation, not that the advice he received made the least impression on him, but because, in fact, it was rendered necessary by circumstances; and because, after the succession of the princes who had acceded to the confederation of the Rhine, a close union between those of the North became more than ever the condition of their safety. The king took measures to establish this league, but on other principles from those of the model presented to him. He made it his pride to collect the last of the Germans under his banners; but the rights of each he left unimpaired, and honor alone was the bond of the league.

—But could France advise the king to any measure which should be productive of advantage to Prussia? We shall soon see what is to be expected when France makes professions of favor.

In the first place, care had been taken to introduce into the fundamental statute of the confederation of the Rhine, an article which contained the germ of all future innovations. It provided, that other princes should be received into this confederation, should they desire it. In this manner, all relations in Germany were left indeterminate; and as the means were still reserved to detach and annex to this league the weaker states, either by promise or threats, it was but too probable that in time this confederation would be extended into the heart of the Prussian monarchy.

And, that this might no longer remain doubtful, but be manifest to every one, the first attempt was immediately made Fortunately, it was made on a prince who knows not fear, and who considers independence as the highest object of his ambition. The French minister at Cassel invited the elector to throw himself into the arms of his master. Prussia it was alleged, did nothing for her allies! It is true, Napoleon knows how to manage his better; and every one sees that Spain and Holland, and the king of Wurtemburg and Bavaria, have to thank their alliance with him for peace, independence, and honor!—Prussia did nothing for her allies.—Napoleon, on the contrary, would reward the accession of the elector by an enlargement of his territory

And this treachery was exercised towards an ally; and at the very moment when the king was advised to form his alliance, of which Hesse was to be the first bulwark, endeavors were made to detach from him a power whom family connections, alliances, and relations of every kind united in the closest manner to his majesty's person.

But even these hostile steps were not sufficient. Does any one wish to know what was the lure by which it was hoped to gain the elector of Hesse, and what was the augmentation of territory with the expectation of which he was flattered? It was the prince of Orange, the brother-in-law of the king—that prince who had been twice deceived in the most shameful manner—who was now to be robbed the third time! He still possessed the territory of Fulda; this was promised to the elector, and it would have been given, and the elector contented to accept it, had not Prussia taken up arms.

His majesty saw the system of usurpation advance every day; he saw a circle, continually becoming narrower, drawn round him, and even the right of moving within it beginning to be disputed with him; for a sweeping resolution forbade a passage to any foreign troop, armed or not armed, through the states of the confederation. This was to cut off, contrary to the rights of nations, the connexion between the detached Hessian provinces; this was to prepare pretexts on which to act; this was the first threat of punishment aimed at a magnanimous prince who had preferred a defender to a master.

But even after this, his majesty cannot reflect on it without admiration; the king considered whether a combination might not be found, which should render this state of things compatible with the maintenance of peace.

The emperor Napoleon appeared to be solicitous to remove this doubt. Two negociations were then carrying on at Paris, one with Russia the other with the English ministry In both these negociations, the intentions of France against Prussia were evidently manifested.

By the treaty which the Emperor of Russia has refused to ratify, France offered, in conjunction with Russia, to prevent Prussia from depriving the king of Sweden of his German territories.—Yet, for many months, the cabinet of St. Cloud had continually pressed the king to seize those states, with the threefold view—first, to revenge himself on the king of Sweden; secondly to embroil Prussia with all other powers; and, thirdly, to purchase her silence with respect to the subversion of southern Prussia But the king had long been aware that such were the views of France; and his unfortunate dispute with Sweden was painful to him. He had, therefore, been careful to provide against every suspicion of self interested motives, and he confined his explanations to the Emperor Alexander. The scene now again changed; and Napoleon, who had so long been the enemy of the king of Sweden, was suddenly transformed into his protector

It is not superfluous to remark, that, this insidious treaty of the French Emperor, in order to satisfy the honorable interest which the court of St. Petersburg took in the maintainance of the rights of the King of Naples, he promised the latter an indemnification; engaging to prevail on the king of Spain to cede to him the Belearic Islands. He will act in the same manner with respect to the augmentation of territory he pretends to bestow on his allies.

These were all preludes to the steps he took against Prussia; we now approach the moment which determined his Majesty.

Prussia had hitherto derived nothing from her treaties with France but humiliation and loss; one single advantage remained The fate of Hanover was in her power; and it must remain, unless the last pledge of the security of the North were annihilated. Napoleon had solemnly guaranteed this state of things, yet he negociated with England on the basis of the restoration of the Electorate. The king is in possession of the proofs.

War was now, in fact, declared—declared by every measure taken by France. Every month produced a new notification of the return of his army; but, on one frivolous pretext or another, it was still continued in Germany; and for what purposes?—Gracious Heaven! to eradicate the last trace of sovereignty among the Germans—to treat kings as governors appointed by himself—to drag before military tribunals citizens only responsible to their own governments; to declare others outlaws who lived peaceably in foreign states, under foreign sovereigns, and even in the capital of a German Emperor, because they had published writings in which the French government or at least its despotism, was attacked; and this at the time when the same government daily permitted hired libellers to attack, under its protection the honour of all crowned heads, and the most sacred feelings of nations.

The French troops were in no manner diminished, but continually reinforced and augmented, and continually advanced nearer to the frontiers of Prussia or her allies, till they at length took a position which could only menace Prussia, and were even assembled in force in Westphalia, which certainly was not the road to the mouths of the Cattaro

It was no longer doubtful that Napoleon had determined to overwhelm Prussia with war, or to render her for ever incapable of war, since he was leading her from humiliation to humilation, till she should be reduced to such a state of political degradation and feebleness, that, deprived of every defence, she could have no other will than that of her formidable neighbor.

The king delayed no longer. He assembled his army. General Knobelsdorff was sent to Paris with the final declaration of his majesty. Only one measure remained which could give security to the king, which was the return of the French troops over the Rhine. General Knobelsdorff had orders to insist on this demand; it was not the whole of the king's just demands, but it was necessary that it should be the first, since it was the condition of his future existence. The acceptance or refusal of it mu-