

Switzerland has for many ages enjoyed an independence fortunate for herself, useful to her neighbours, and necessary to the maintenance of a political equilibrium. Those scourges of the French Revolution, the wars which for twenty years have sapped to the very foundations, the prosperity of all the States of Europe, had not spared Switzerland.

Agitated in her interior, enfeebled by the vain effort to escape from the baneful influence of a destroying torrent, Switzerland saw herself gradually deprived by France, who called herself her friend, of those bulwarks essential to the preservation of her independence. The Emperor Napoleon ended, by establishing upon the ruins of the Swiss Federation, and under a title till then unknown, a direct permanent influence, incompatible with the liberty of the Republic, that ancient liberty so respected by all the Powers of Europe, and which was the guarantee of the ties of friendship which Switzerland had continued to preserve with them, even to the epoch of her subjection, and which is the principal condition of the neutrality of a State.

The principles which animate the Allied Sovereigns in the present war are well known. Every nation which has not lost the remembrance of its independence ought to avow them. These Powers desire that Switzerland should recover, together with all Europe, the enjoyment of this first right of every nation, and with her ancient frontiers the means of sustaining that right. They cannot admit a neutrality, which, in the actual relations of Switzerland, exists only in name.

The armies of the Allied Powers, in presenting themselves upon the frontiers of Switzerland, expect to meet with none but friends. Their Imperial and Royal Majesties solemnly engage themselves not to lay down their arms before they ensure to the Republic those places which France has torn from it. Without any intention to meddle with her interior relations, they will never suffer that Switzerland should be placed under a foreign influence.

They will recognize her neutrality on that day on which she shall be free and independent, and they expect from the patriotism of a brave nation, that, faithful to the principles which have rendered them illustrious in past ages, they will second the noble and generous efforts which should unite for the same cause all the Sovereigns and nations of Europe.

The undersigned, in making this communication, feel it their duty to acquaint his Excellency the Landammann with the Proclamation and Order of the Day, which the Commander in Chief of the Grand Army will publish at the moment of the army entering the Swiss territory. His Excellency will find them conformable to the sentiments which their Imperial and Royal Majesties have towards the Confederation. The Undersigned, &c.

*Extract of a dispatch from his Excellency the Earl of Aberdeen, K.T. dated Freyburg, December 25, 1813.*

I HAVE the satisfaction of being able to give your Lordship the most favourable account of the state of affairs in Switzerland. General Count Bubna entered Berne the day before yesterday, with a strong corps of cavalry, and the head-quarters of

Prince Schwartzberg were to be established there in the course of this day or to-morrow. The troops, which are all Austrian, have observed the strictest discipline in their passage through the country, and have been received with the utmost enthusiasm by the inhabitants.

I am to inform your Lordship, that the day before yesterday a revolution took place in the government of the Canton of Berne. The business was brought forward in the Council by the present Avoyer Fieudeniech, and General Watteville, with others of the most respectable inhabitants, who re-established the ancient government forthwith, to the great joy of the whole population. The small Cantons will follow the example of Berne without hesitation, as well as Fribourg and Soleure.

To-morrow, or the next day, the head-quarters of his Imperial Majesty will be established on the left bank of the Rhine, either at Basle or Rheinfelden.

Admiralty-Office, January 8, 1814.

*Extract of a Letter from Captain Farquhar, of his Majesty's ship Desirée, to John Wilson Croker, Esq. dated off Gluckstadt, December 23, 1813.*

I HAVE to acquaint their Lordships, that on Sunday, the 19th instant, I was made acquainted by letter from Captain Marshall, of his Majesty's sloop Shamrock, that a detachment of the Swedish army was advancing towards Gluckstadt, I determined to move up next morning with his Majesty's ships *Desirée* and *Blazer*, but the weather was so extremely thick that it was impossible to move; the same day I received another communication from Captain Marshall, that Stoar Battery, a little below Gluckstadt, was attacked by the Swedes, when the enemy set fire to the gun carriages, spiked their guns, and retreated into the town. I therefore resolved to proceed up the river that night in a gun-boat, and ordered the frigate and brig to come up as soon as the weather should clear, and they arrived, this morning.

Admiralty-Office, January 8, 1814.

*Copy of a Letter from Captain Hoste, of His Majesty's Ship Bacchante, addressed to Rear-Admiral Freemantle, and transmitted by Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Pellew, to John Wilson Croker, Esq.*

*His Majesty's Ship Bacchante, off Castel Nuova, Oct. 16, 1813.*

SIR,

I ARRIVED off Ragusa on the 12th instant, and joined the Saracen and three gun-boats, with a detachment of the garrison of Curzola on board, commanded by Captain Lowen, who had been directed by Colonel Robertson to act on this coast.

From the information I received from Captain Harper, of the Saracen, together with the state of the country about Cattaro, and the insurrection of the Bocchese, I lost no time in proceeding to this place, with the vessels under my orders. On the 13th, in the morning, we forced the passage between Castel Nuova and the fort of Rosa, and after some firing, secured a capital anchorage for the squadron about three miles above Castel Nuova.

In the evening, I detached the boats of this ship,