

on; but Bonaparte was too cautious, and sent Berthier to enforce obedience.

"When the Turks had all fallen, the French troops humanely endeavoured to put a period to the sufferings of the wounded, but some time elapsed before the bayonet could finish what the fire had not destroyed, and probably many languished whole days in agony. Several French Officers, by whom partly these details are furnished, declared, that this was a scene, the retrospect of which tormented their recollection, and that they could not reflect on it without horror; accustomed as they had been to fights of cruelty! These were the prisoners, whom Assalini, in his very able work on the plague, alluded to, when he says, that for three days the Turks shewed no symptoms of that disease, and it was their putrifying remains which produced the pestilential maldy which he describes as afterwards making such ravages in the French Army. The bones still lie in heaps, and are shewn to every traveller who arrives; nor can they be confounded with these who perished in the assault; since this field of butchery lies a mile from the town.

"Such a fact should not, however, be alleged without some proof or leading circumstance stronger than assertion being produced to support it; but there would be a want of generosity in naming individuals, and branding them to the latest posterity with infamy, for obeying a command, when their submission became an act of necessity; therefore to establish further the authority of the relation, this only can be mentioned—that it was Bonni's division which fired, and thus every one is afforded the opportunity of satisfying themselves respecting the truth, by inquiring of Officers serving in the different brigades composing this division.

"The next circumstance is of a nature which requires, indeed, the most particular details to establish; since the idea can scarce be entertained, that the Commander of an army should order his own countrymen (or if not immediately such, those amongst whom he had been naturalized,) to be deprived of life when in a state which required the kindest consideration. But the annals of France record the frightful crimes of a Robespierre, a Carrier; and historical truth must now recite one equal to any which has blackened its page.

"Bonaparte finding that his hospitals at Jaffa were crowded with sick, sent for a physician, whose name should be inscribed in letters of gold, but which from weighty reasons cannot be here inserted: on his arrival Bonaparte entered into a long conversation with him respecting the danger of contagion, concluding at last with the remark, that something must be done to remedy the evil, and "that the destruction of the sick at present in the hospital, was the only measure which could be adopted!"

"The Physician, alarmed at the proposal, bold in the confidence of virtue and the cause of humanity, remonstrated vehemently, representing the cruelty as well as the atrocity of such a murder; but finding that Bonaparte persevered and menaced, he indignantly left the tent, with this memorable observation:—"Neither my principles, nor the character of my profession, will allow me to become a human butcher; and, General, if such qualities as you insinuate are necessary to form a great man, I thank my God, that I do not possess them."

"Bonaparte was not to be diverted from his object, by moral considerations: he persevered, and found an apothecary, who, (dreading the weight of power, but who since has