

part of whom occupy the villages at the entrance of the Bauges; and I this day push forward my advanced guard into the interior of the mountains. My conduct will be guided by the discoveries which I shall make. I hope that in a week the whole country will be under the French dominion, from Geneva to Mount Cenis.

“ If M. Anselme should be as fortunate as myself, all the states of the King of Sardinia will soon be reduced, except Piedmont, and Sardinia itself. The march of my army is like a triumphal procession. The people of the country, and those of the town flock round us; and the three-coloured cockade is every where displayed!

“ A deputation from Chambéry came to me the day before yesterday, at the place of Marches; and yesterday morning I set off with 100 cavalry, eight companies of grenadiers, and four pieces of cannon, to take possession of that capital. The Municipality attended at the gate, in their robes, to deliver the keys; the chief Magistrate expressed to me the respect and attachment of the people of Savoy to the French nation; and in the name of that generous nation, I promised protection, peace, and liberty to the people of Savoy. I then proceeded to the Common Hall, where I received the homage of the citizens; after which, all my suite partook of a splendid entertainment, which had been prepared. I cannot give too much praise to the soldiers and volunteers for their behaviour, it could not be more regular in their own country.

“ I thought it due to the frank and loyal conduct of the Magistrates and Citizens of Chanberg, to let them have at the Common Hall a guard of the armed burghers; and they seemed much pleased with this mark of confidence.

“ This day the Tree of Liberty shall be planted with proper ceremony, in the principal square in the city.

“ It appears to me that the minds of the people here are disposed to a revolution similar to ours. I have already heard them speak of an 84th department, annexed to France. It is desirable, that I should know the wish of Government in this respect, for I think that I could have an influence as to the part which will be taken here. Whatever may happen, here is our object accomplished. This event is very formidable to Geneva and all Switzerland. I have demanded the liberty of some prisoners, arrested for having spoken in defence of the French Revolution. I have delivered some others, who were only accused of smuggling. I have said, besides, that the nation would leave to the laws of the country their free course, until the Savoyard nation should have willingly changed them. I intreat you to inform me, if I ought to hold any other language; until then I shall not interrupt the course of the ordinary laws, or the functions of the Magistrates. Perhaps, in order to replace the administrative authority of the ancient government, until it shall be changed, it may be necessary to appoint a Governor of this province; I can here exercise only a military authority, which would be to use the right of conquest. I leave this enquiry to your wisdom.

“ You must immediately determine upon the number of troops to be wintered in this country, for the campaign will close on the 15th of Octr.

“ P. S. Until a Manifesto can be published, I have posted a bill, with the title, “ In the name of the French Nation, war to despots, peace and liberty to the People.”