

towns, and a third time they were compelled to yield to the extortions of the French Satraps \*!

“Private property sacred!” What is sacred to a man who has reduced MURDER TO RULE, AND

\* I cannot avoid taking notice of a well written and spirited letter of a Mr. Charles Villars†, which was circulated in print among the Author’s friends about the time of the transactions at Lubec, addressed to Madame *Fanny Beauharnois*, aunt of General *Beauharnois*, first husband of the Empress *Josephine*.

After the battle of Jena (says Mr. Villars), the Prussian General Blucher retreated from that scene of carnage, and got to Lubec, whither he was pursued by three *corps d’armées* commanded by *Soult*, *Bernadotte*, and *Murat*. Lubec, though a fortified town, was but ill prepared to resist the entrance of the Prussians; the latter got possession of it by a *coup de maître*. They then put it in a state of defence. The French got possession of it, and in violation of a capitulation, by which the lives of the Prussians were to be spared, all of that nation who could be found were massacred. Had the matter rested here, Mr. Villars would not have exposed his life by publishing the letter in question; but horrible to relate, the harmless and inoffensive city of Lubec, for not having made an impossible defence against the Prussians, was given up for three days to be plundered, and submitted to every kind of cruelty that could disgrace the history of modern times. Not a female of the most tender age escaped violation. Even the hospitals and the very madhouse were not respected!

Mr. Villars observes that for thirty years to come, every family of that unfortunate city will have reason to recollect the three days that the French army passed there. He bestows great eulogiums on *Bernadotte*; but says that *Soult* and *Murat* gave every encouragement to their licentious followers.

I have entered into these details, because I know there are some persons in this country very little disposed to believe any thing against the *Philanthropy* of their demi-god Napoleon.

† Mr. Charles Villars was originally of Metz, but was at this time resident at Lubec, and an inmate of Mr. *Matthias Rodde*, a senator and respectable merchant of that city for twenty years. Mr. Villars is a corresponding member of the National Institute, and about seven years ago, obtained from that learned body a prize for a work, which he published, “On the good Effects of the Reformation of Luther,” and which has been translated into English.