

Marck and Vander Noot, expressing the gratitude of the people of Brabant for their mild government, and for the promptitude with which they have ever interposed at the court of Vienna, in behalf of the province. It was said to have been added, that, at Brussels, which could be only attacked by the main body of the patriotic army, their Royal Highnesses might be assured of security and respect; but if they ventured on a journey, the leaders could not presume to be responsible for the treatment they might receive from the dispersed bodies of patriots, who traversed the country.

This letter is said to have changed their resolution. The fact is certain, that they remain at Brussels, and that they have betrayed the strongest repugnance at the present violent measures of the government.

The rigours of the ministry have increased with their fears. To have received, in miscellaneous or commercial correspondence, the slightest article of intelligence, *which has the misfortune to be true*, is become a crime against the state. Forty two prisoners, among whom were the secretary, the preceptor of the children of the Duke d'Ursel, and Vivier, the secretary of the Cardinal of Malines, were yesterday escorted by a strong guard to the citadel of Antwerp, now the Bastille of the Netherlands.

Dalton, at length sensible that the impolitic parade of keeping the gates of Brussels shut, served only to betray his feebleness, and to swell the triumph of his enemies, has affected confidence in the moment of defeat, and revokes his orders:—the gates are now thrown open during the day.

Such is the aspect of affairs in this capital.—On the part of the patriots, vigorous and systematic preparations are making, to improve their splendid successes and important advantages. That the co-operation of the Flemings may have the same legal and constitutional sanction with the insurrection of the Brabançons, the states of Flanders will assemble in a few days at Ghent. There can be no doubt that they will adopt and promulgate the principles contained in the manifesto of the patriotic insurgents, and declare the Emperor to have forfeited his sovereignty, not only as Duke of Brabant, but as Count of Flanders.

Very considerable treasures have been found in the Bureau de droits, as well at St. Nicholas and Tirlemont, as at Ghent. A large body was detached towards Bruges; and on the canal which leads from that city to Ghent, they took possession of

a vessel laden with arms and ammunition for the Imperial troops. The fate of this city and of Ostend is probably at this moment decided. There can be little doubt that they are in possession of the patriotic troops, and that Ostend has expiated its indiscreet and ostentatious zeal for the Imperial cause. For some time past it had experienced a general stagnation of trade: the merchants of England foresaw that the cloud which so long had blackened the political atmosphere of the Belgic provinces, must speedily burst, and the wealth and credit of individuals must perish in the storm; they have therefore declined giving credit to their most tried and punctual correspondents.

In every part of Flanders, the peasants are embodying. The chief apprehension of discerning men is, that by so great accessions, the patriotic army will swell to an impotent and unwieldy mob. The apprehensions of the government, that the hardy mountaineers of Luxemburg and Limburg will revolt, has induced them, even at the hazard of weakening their main army, to detach some part of the regiment of Wirtemberg towards these provinces. A considerable part of it is stationed at Herve, a city of the duchy of Limburg, near the frontiers of Liege.

Great bodies from Namur and Hainault are daily flocking in to the patriot standard. The commotion in the latter province is so great, that M. Esterhazy, commander of the troops in French Hainault, has thought it necessary to apply to his court for instructions, in what manner he should behave to any of the Imperial subjects who might take refuge in the territories of France. His orders were, to afford asylum, without exception, to all who did not come in force.

The hopes which the patriots have so long entertained of foreign assistance, are corroborated by recent occurrences: our advices from Liege announce, with the greatest confidence and triumph, that the march of the Prussian troops is countermanded. M. le Baron de Hop, the Dutch envoy here, has received a remonstrance to be transmitted to the States General, complaining, in the warmest language, of jealousy and irritation of the clandestine countenance afforded to the insurgents. These circumstances, the preparations for war that are making in the Prussian dominions, and the fermentation in Poland, that will probably terminate in that Country being emancipated from the Russian yoke—seem to announce, that the breaking out of a general war in Europe only waits the decision of the English cabinet.