Late Foreign News.

LONDON, February 27.

The following is an abſtract of Bonaparte's official view of the ſtate of the French republic:

Yeſterday afternoon we received Paris papers to the 22d inſtant, which announce the meeting of the legiſlative body on the preceding day; the firſt object intended for their diſcuſſion is the civil code.

As our paper was about to be put to preſs, we received a Moniteur, one day later, viz. of the 23d inſtant. This paper contains an official view of the preſent ſituation of the republic, prepared for the legiſlative body, to whom it is to be conveyed by three of the members. This important and curious paper is ſigned by Bonaparte; its ſubſtance is as follows:

It begins by complimenting the ſenate on the increaſing induſtry of the republic, and the union amongſt its citizens. "The execution of the concordat, on the reſult of which the enemies of public order have reſted their guilty hopes, has been productive of the moſt happy effects. The principles of an enlightened religion, the voice of the ſovereign pontiff, and the firmneſs of government, have triumphed over every obſtacle; mutual ſacrifices have united the miniſters of religion; and the Galican church revives by their unanimity."

It is ſtated that in all the departments which were viſited by the firſt conſul, he every where received complete teſtimonies of a return to thoſe principles which form the ſtrength and happineſs of ſociety.

Several departments, in which particular obſervations on the ſubject of religion, &c. were made, are ſpecified. The report then takes a view of the different inſtitutions for public inſtruction, ſuch as the military ſchool, the national inſtitution, &c. and ſubjoins remarks on their ſeveral and relative degrees of importance. The next point is, the incomplete organization of the ſenate and the effects produced by the ſenatus conſultum, which gave the people the exerciſe of thoſe rights that had been admitted by the conſtituted aſſembly; it concludes with remarking—"That if inſtitutions are to be judged of by their effects, none ever had a more favorable reſult than the organic ſenatus conſultum in queſtion, as from that period there only remained to the enemies of the country an important hatred."

After ſome remarks on the ceſſion of Elba to France, by which ſhe acquired a mild and induſtrious people, two beautiful ports, and a valuable mine, it mentions the reaſons why that iſland ſhould not be ſubject to the ſame laws which apply to the continent. With reſpect to Piedmont it contains the following paſſage: "The abdication of the ſovereign, the wiſh of the people, and exiſting circumſtances, had placed Piedmont in the power of France. Amidſt the nations with which that kingdom was ſurrounded, and the different ſentiments that prevailed amongſt her inhabitants, ſhe could neither ſupport her own independence, nor the expences of a monarchy; but united to France, ſhe will enjoy both ſecurity and grandeur, while her laborious and enlightened citizens will extend their talents and induſtry in the midſt of the arts and of peace."

A view is now taken of the internal ſituation of France, the object of which is to praiſe the vigilance of the magiſtrates for their attention to juſtice; the military, for their rigid diſcipline; and the gendarmerie, for their activity in the ſuppreſſion of popular diſorders. With reſpect to the agriculture of the republic, it is ſtated to have attained a degree of perfection beyond that of the moſt boaſted ſyſtems in Europe. The veterinary art has alſo been encouraged by premiums, and attempts every where made to improve the quality of wool by the introduction of foreign flocks. Manufactures of every kind are in a progreſſive ſtate of increaſe, and nothing is wanting to their ſucceſs but a more extenſive employment of capital, which is, however, rapidly withdrawing from hazardous ſpeculations in the ſtocks to this more profitable and patriotic occupation. Laſtly, it is ſtated, that upwards of 20,000 French manufacturers, who were diſperſed throughout Europe, have, by the protection and benevolence of the government, returned to purſue their reſpective vocations in the republic. The manufacturers of Lyons and Compiegne, are particularly noticed for their rapid approximation to their former opulence.

In the repair of the public roads, it is obſerved that 24,000,000 livres have been expended, and 14 of which were produced by the toll-duty. Amongſt the new roads juſt completed are the Simplon, Mont Cenis, and the Mont Genevre; thoſe in a ſtate of forwardneſs are a large road from Genoa to Marſeilles, and another, which is to run from Saint Eſprit to Gap. Many new eſtabliſhments are building at Pontivy; and, amongſt other improvements, there will be a grand canal. The operations carrying on for the improvement of the canal for uniting the navigation of the Seine, the Saone, the Doubs, and the Rhine, are alſo mentioned; and the funds for carrying on theſe works are ſtated to be equal to their completion. In different canals and dykes to which improvements have been extended, the owners of boats and barges, inſtead of oppoſing the meaſures, have contributed to their ſucceſs.

After taking a ſurvey of various meaſures of defence completed along the coaſt, the report adverts to the ſituation of the colonies in the Weſt-Indies. The iſlands of Martinique, Tobago and St. Lucia are ſtated to have been ſurrounded in the height of proſperity; Guadaloupe is in a good ſtate of cultivation, and Guiana is rapid in riſing from its obſcurity. "St. Domingo," ſays the report, "had ſubmitted and the author of its troubles was in the power of France: every thing, in ſhort, announced the return of its proſperity, when by a horrid diſeaſe, it was devoted to a new calamity; but the plague that deſolated our army has now ceaſed its ravages, and the forces that remain in the colony, together with thoſe which will ſpeedily arrive, cannot fail to reſtore it to peace and proſperity."

Amongſt other branches of commerce, it appears that the utility of the fiſheries has not been overlooked—while more important commercial expeditions are either projected or completed for the Weſtern colonies, the Iſle of France, and the Indies. Some remarks are made on the judicious choice of officers for the chambers of commerce, that are eſtabliſhed in the different parts of the republic.

The army and the marines are ſtated to be making the moſt rapid progreſs in their reſpective tactics, while in conſequence of the expoſure of the frauds of contractors, together with an improved ſyſtem of economy, the ſoldiers are better fed and cloathed, and the ſavings which he is enabled to make from his pay, attach him as ſtrongly to his colors as to his family.

With reſpect to the finances, their ſources are every where increaſing. In the 6th year it was ſuppoſed that the contribution, &c. amounted to 50,000,000, part of which were three or four years in arrears: at preſent there is not a deficiency of 3,000,000. Every branch of adminiſtration becomes more productive and that of the regiſtry, from its abundance, is a proof of the rapid circulation of capital, and the increaſe of commerce. Several alterations in the different offices of government, are ſtated in the report, to have been propoſed, but delayed from the maxim that every change is injurious. The executive, however, expreſſes its intention to pay the moſt profound conſideration to the hints it has received.

Although the exceſs of revenue has been very conſiderable, yet there have been unforeſeen and extraordinary expences; theſe aroſe out of the neceſſity of reconquering two colonies, and of re-eſtabliſhing the power and organization of the metropolis; but notwithſtanding theſe extenſive operations, the reſources that remain are ſufficient to ſecure the capital from a return of penury, and to defeat monopolizing combinations. The report then refers to the contents of the different accounts belonging to the departments of finance and public treaſure, and urges the neceſſity of giving to France the civil code which has been ſo long promiſed, and ſo anxiouſly expected. The projects of laws have been formed under the inſpection of the government, and the ſame principles, as formerly, continue to prevail amongſt the legiſlators, by which the wiſdom of the regulations they may adopt will be inſured.

In giving a ſketch of the repoſe and tranquility of the continent, the Italian republic, the report aſſerts, is ſtrengthened by the unanimity of its inhabitants, while the judicious proceedings of its adminiſtration, together with its military force, have already given it the character and appearance of a long eſtabliſhed ſtate, and if the ſame wiſdom continues to prevail, its deſtiny will be ſtill more proſperous.

"Liguria, placed under a mixed conſtitution, beholds at its head, and in its authority thoſe citizens who are moſt diſtinguiſhed by their virtues, their fortune, and their intellects."

"Batavia is gradually regaining poſſeſſion of the colonies reſtored to her by the peace; but ſhe ought never to forget that France can be to her only the moſt uſeful friend or the moſt dangerous enemy."

"In Germany the laſt ſtipulations of the treaty of Luneville are near their completion."

"Pruſſia, Bavaria, and all the Secular Princes, who had poſſeſſions on the left bank of the Rhine, have obtained on the oppoſite bank adequate indemnification."

"The houſe of Auſtria, in the Biſhopries of Saltzbourg, Aichſtett, Trent and Brixen, as well as in moſt parts of Paſſau, finds an equivalent for what it has loſt in Tuſcany."

"Thus, by the happy concurrence of France and Ruſſia, every permanent intereſt is conſulted; and from the midſt of that ſtorm which appeared to be pregnant with deſtruction, the Germanic empire, that empire ſo neceſſary to the equilibrium and the repoſe of Europe, ariſes with greater ſtrength by being compoſed of elements more homogenous and better combined, and adapted to the circumſtances and ideas of the preſent age."

"A French ambaſſador is at Conſtantinople, who is authoriſed to ſtrengthen the ties that attach us to a power which ſeems to waver, but whom it is our intereſt to ſupport and conſolidate.

"Some Britiſh troops ſtill remain in Alexandria and Malta: of this our government had a right to complain, but it has learned that the ſhips deſtined to convoy them to Europe are in the Mediterranean."

The government ſecures to the people the peace of the continent, and it may be permitted to hope for the continuation of a maritime peace; this peace is required and wiſhed for by all parties; and to preſerve it, the government will do whatever is compatible with national honor, and eſſentially connected with the ſtrict execution of treaties. But in England two parties diſpute for power: One has concluded the peace, and is decidedly inclined to maintain it; while the other has ſworn an implicable hatred to France; hence ariſes that fluctuation in opinions, and in the ſenate that attitude which is at once pacific and threatning. As long as this conteſt of parties continues, there are certain prudential meaſures neceſſary on the part of the republic. Five hundred thouſand men muſt be ready to defend and avenge it. What a ſtrange neceſſity is impoſed, by miſerable paſſions, upon two nations, whoſe attachments ariſe from an equal intereſt and a general inclination.

"But whatever may be the ſucceſs of intrigue in London the parties will not ſucceed in forming new alliances with other power; and our government tells them with well founded pride, that England alone cannot now encounter France! But let us entertain better hopes, and rather believe that in the Britiſh cabinet there will in future be heard only the councils of wiſdom, and the voice of humanity.

"Yes, without doubt, the peace will be conſolidated, and the connection between the two governments will aſſume that character of benevolence ſo congenial to their mutual intereſts. A happy repoſe will cauſe the long calamities of a diſaſtrous war to be buried in oblivion, and France and England, by continuing to promote their reciprocal happineſs will merit the approbation of the univerſe.

"The firſt conſul,

(Signed) BONAPARTE.

"By order of the firſt conſul,

"The ſecretary of ſtate,

(Signed) H. B. MARET."

Act of Mediation by the First Conſul of the French republic, between the parties that divide Switzerland.

Bonaparte, firſt conſul of the French republic, and preſident of the Italian republic, to the Swiſs.

"Helvetia, a prey to diſſention, was threatened with diſſolution; ſhe did not poſſeſs the means of giving to herſelf a new conſtitution. The ancient affection of the French nation for that eſtimable people, whom ſhe has recently defended by her arms, and procured to be acknowledged as a power by her treaties; the intereſt of France and of the Italian republic, whoſe frontiers are covered by Switzerland; the requeſt of the ſenate, that of the democratic cantons, the wiſhes of the whole Swiſs people, have rendered it a duty in us to interpoſe our mediation between the different parties. The ſenators Barthelemy, Roederer, Fouche and Demeunier, have been charged by us to confer with fifty-ſix deputies from the Helvetic ſenate, and the towns and cantons aſſembled together at Paris. To determine whether Switzerland, conſtituted federal by nature, could be retained under a central government otherwiſe than by force; to diſcover the kind of conſtitution moſt conformable to the wiſh of each canton; to diſtinguiſh what anſwers beſt the ideas of the new cantons as to liberty and happineſs; to reconcile in the old cantons the inſtitutions conſecrated by time with the rights reſtored to the maſs of citizens; ſuch were the objects which were to be ſubmitted to diſcuſſion and examination. Their importance and their difficulty have induced us to hear ourſelves ten deputies nominated by the two parties, viz. the citizens Affray, Glutz, Jauch, Monnot, Reinhart, Sprecher, Stapfer, Uſtery, Watteville and Vonflue, and we have compared the reſult of their diſcuſſions, both with the different projects preſented by the cantonal deputations, and with the reſults of the diſcuſſions that have taken place between theſe deputations and the ſenators commiſſaries. Having alſo employed every mean to learn the intereſts and inclinations of the Swiſs. We, in quality of mediator, without any other view than that of the welfare of the people on whoſe intereſts we have to decide, and without liſtening to any thing that might be to the prejudice of the independence of Switzerland, decree as follows:

[Here are given the particular conſtitutions of the nineteen cantons of Switzerland, and under the title of the federal act, the general conſtitution of which we have already given a correct outline in an article from Bern.]

After declaring the nature of each conſtitution, the following articles are inſerted:

1. The directorial canton for the year 1803, is that of Friburg.

2. Citizen Louis d'Affry is declared Landaman of Switzerland for the preſent year, and is inveſted with full powers until the meeting of the diet.

3. The original act of mediation ſhall be tranſmitted to the landaman, to be by him depoſited in the archives of the directorial canton.

4. In each canton a commiſſion of ſeven members, one to be choſen by us, and ſix nominated by the ten deputies elected to confer with us, is charged with the enforcement and proviſional adminiſtration of the conſtitution.

Then follow the names of the members, of which the commiſſion for each canton is compoſed.

On the 10th of March, the central government will diſſolve itſelf after reſigning to the landaman of Switzerland its papers and archives.

The Helvetic troops at preſent in the pay of Switzerland, which ſhall not be employed on the firſt of May by the cantons, ſhall be taken into the ſervice of France.

After providing for the remiſſion of politicial offences, and the ſecurity of eccleſiaſtical property and the liquidation of the national debt, the act of mediation concludes in the following terms.

"The preſent act, the reſult of long conference between minds enlightened and friendly to harmony, has appeared to us to contain the beſt diſpoſitions for the pacification and happineſs of the Swiſs. The moment they are executed, the French troops ſhall evacuate the country.

"We recognize Helvetia, conſtituted in conformity to the preſent act, as an independent power.

"We guarantee the federal conſtitution and that of each Canton, againſt the enemies of the tranquility of Helvetia, whoever they may be; and we promiſe to continue the relations of good will, which for ſeveral centuries have united the two nations.

"Done at Paris, February 19, 1803,

(Signed) "BONAPARTE."

To which are annexed the ſignatures of the ſecretary of ſtate, of the miniſter for foreign affairs, and of the miniſter for foreign affairs of the Italian republic.

ARRETE

Concerning the Foreigners eſtabliſhed in the Colonies of Martinique and St. Lucie, 30th Pluvioſe, 11th year.

LOUIS-THOMAS VILLARET JOYEUSE, Captain general of Martinique and Saint Lucie, and CHARLES HENRY BERTIN, Counſellor of State, Colonial Prefect of the ſaid iſlands.

On examination of the letters patent of the month of October, 1727, and the treaty of Amiens between the French republic and the United Kingdom of Great-Britain.

In conſequence of the juſt repreſentations of the French merchants with regard to the liberty with which foreigners continue to trade at Martinique and St. Lucia, ſince the ſaid iſlands have been reſtored to France;

Conſidering that the juſtice and intereſts of governments require that the trade of their reſpective colonial poſſeſſions ſhould be excluſively reſerved to the trade of the mother country.

That the ſame principle, acknowledged by all nations, and enforced by the laws of all commercial countries, has been lately ſanctioned again by the laſt treaty of peace between France and England.

Conſidering that the authorities of thoſe colonies, have given to foreigners, by the facility left to them until this day to carry on trade, a ſufficient proof of their wiſh to entertain and increaſe if poſſible, that harmony and friendly connection exiſting between their reſpective governments.

And laſtly, conſidering that the loſſes and wants of all deſcriptions, ſupported by the French trade during the war makes it a duty for government to aſſiſt the reſtoration of the ſame by every poſſible means.

Article I.

Reſolved, All diſpoſitions of the letters patent of the month of October, 1727, and eſpecially thoſe of the title 6th concerning foreigners eſtabliſhed in the colonies, which diſpoſitions have not ſince been repealed by any ſubſequent laws, ordinances, regulations, or arretes, ſhall be fulfilled according to their form and tenor.

II.

The delay granted to foreigners by the letters patent, to put an end to their commercial buſineſs is fixed to the 1ſt. Meſſidor next (20th June, 1803, O. S.)

III.

From the date of the 1ſt Meſſidor, all ſtores occupied by foreigners are to be ceded in preference, on even offers, to the merchants or captains of French veſſels.

IV.

All contracts, notes of hand, tranſactions or bonds made after the date of the 1ſt Meſſidor next, with foreigners, concerning operations of commerce or trade, either on their account or as attornies even of French houſes of trade, ſhall be void, and ſhall not be capable of binding the parties unleſs it be for final ſettlements of buſineſs or of commercial partnerſhip.

All public officers are forbidden to make out, ſign, or even receive ſuch inſtruments of writing, from the above date, under penalty of ſix thouſand livres, and of being ſuperſeded of their functions during three years.

V.

All French merchants and traders in Martinique or St. Lucia who may have clerks, partners, agents, factors or other foreign perſons concerned in their commercial buſineſs or who interfere therein, either directly or indirectly, are ordered to diſſolve all connections of the kind that may exiſt with them, between this and the 1ſt Meſſidor next (20th June, 1803) under pain againſt the merchants and traders of a fine of ſix thouſand livres; and againſt the foreigners of being ſent off the colony.

One half of the fines determined ſhall be given to the perſons who will give notice of the offenders againſt the preceding diſpoſitions.

VI.

Foreigners owning landed property, or houſes, ſtores or any eſtabliſhments whatſoever, other than commercial property, are allowed to enjoy freely and to regulate, adminiſter and govern the ſame, either by their own hands or by others on their account; and to continue to reſide in theſe colonies under the ſame privilege and protection that the laws and government allow to ſuch French citizens as are proprietors and cultivators.

VII.

Such of the ſaid foreigners whoſe intention will not be to reſide in the ſaid colonies, will, under the ſame protection enjoy the facility granted to them by the 20th article of the treaty of Amiens.

VIII.

The execution of the preſent arrete is entruſted to the inſpection of all functionaries and citizens inveſted with a public authority. The offences againſt the regulations it contains ſhall be proſecuted thro' the commiſſaries of government near the tribunals.

The ſame ſhall be tranſlated, printed, publiſhed, poſted up and enregiſtered at the regiſter's office of the prefecture.

A copy ſhall be ſent to the grand judge to be entered by his inſtructions on the regiſters of the tribunals of Martinique and St. Lucia.

Given at Martinique the 30th Pluvioſe, 11th year of the French republic.

(Signed)

VILLARET JOYEUSE BERTIN.

PHILADELPHIA, April 4.

In the Huntingdon Gazette of the twenty eighth ult. we find the following additional information:—

Miſs M'Dowell's parents who about three years ago removed from Montreal in Canada, to the ſtate of Kentucky, left her with, and under the care of her aunt, who promiſed ſhe ſhould inherit her eſtate. Some ſhort time ago her aunt died, and the young lady having a wiſh to return to her parents diſpoſed of the property ſhe became poſſeſſed of, which amounted to the ſum of one thouſand one hundred and fifty three guineas. She then wrote to her father to ſend ſome perſon to eſcort her to his place of reſidence, who readily complied, by ſending a young man whom he had raiſed from a child and had his confidence. Having commenced her journey ſhe travelled unmoleſted until the evening above mentioned, about one hour after dark; her eſcort ſtopped her, where the road paſſed through a thick woods, pulled her from the ſaddle, and putting a piſtol to her breaſt, declared he would take her life, and then he would have her money—upon her piteous appeal to ſpare her life, the piſtol fell from his hand—but he picked up a rough ſtick and forced it in her mouth for a gag, and tied it behind her head with his hat band, he then dragged her ſome diſtance in the thicket and ſtripped her quite naked, tied her hands behind her back with her garter, and with a cord tied her around the waiſt to a ſapplin, and then rode off.

In this painful ſituation ſhe remained a great part of the night, and muſt have periſhed had not her exertions and writhing to keep herſelf from freezing broke the cord—before the morning opened, ſhe found her way to a houſe which was incloſed with a fence that ſhe could not climb over, nor open by reaſon that her hands were tied behind her back, and could not call, on account of the gag. She remained by the fence until the family aroſe and gave their aſſiſtance.

On Wedneſday laſt, he was ſeen paſſing through this town, leading Miſs M'Dowels horſe, and enquired the road to Tuſkarora-Valley, in Mifflin county.

ROBBERY!

The following intereſting account of a moſt barbarous and atrocious robbery, (ſays the Gazette of the United States) has been communicated to us by a reſpectable correſpondent at Williamſport, Pennſylvania.

The unhappy ſufferer, is a young lady about eighteen years of age, by the name of *Eſther M'Dowell*. The hiſtory of her misfortune is thus related by our correſpondent:

Miſs M'Dowell is the daughter and only child of Dr. John M'Dowell, who, about three years ſince, removed from Montreal to Kentucky, where he had purchaſed an eſtate. He left this daughter to reſide with an aged aunt who has ſince died and left her niece heir to a conſiderable property. Upon the death of her aunt, the young lady expreſſed to her father a wiſh to remove and reſide with her parents in Kentucky. Accordingly he ſent a man, who had been brought up from infancy in his family, and in whoſe fidelity and honor he had the moſt implicit confidence, to conduct her home. She proceeded with him from Montreal, and arrived in the neighborhood of Williamſport, on Monday evening, the 21ſt of March. During the day, the villain had taken pains to avoid obſervation as much as poſſible, by leaving the public road and paſſing through obſcure and unfrequented paths. They continued to travel till about ten o'clock in the evening, when he ſuddenly diſmounted, dragged the lady from her horſe, and preſenting a piſtol to her breaſt, demanded her money, and threatened to murder her if ſhe attempted to give an alarm. She implored his mercy, offering him all ſhe poſſeſſed upon the condition of ſparing her life. At that inſtant he tore off her bonnet, and gagged her mouth to prevent her from ſpeaking. He then proceeded to ſtrip her of every article of cloathing, and tying her hands behind her, made her faſt to a tree while he packed up her apparel in the ſaddle-bags. Having done this, he removed her to a more diſtant part of the woods, and tying her faſt to a tree in a cloſe thicket, made off with the horſes and all the property that ſhe had with her.

In this deplorable ſituation ſhe remained entirely naked, expoſed to the ſevere cold of the night until about break of day, when, by her ſtruggles, ſhe looſened herſelf from the tree, and with much difficulty made her way through the woods to a houſe about eighty rods diſtant, where ſhe was kindly received, and ſupplied with ſuch things as were immediately neceſſary. It was not until after a conſiderable time that ſhe was able to ſpeak and relate the particulars of the diſaſter.

She is now, as our correſpondent informs, at the houſe of the reverend Iſaac Grier, who lives near the place where the inhuman crime was perpetrated. Though nearly a hundred perſons have been engaged in purſuit of the villain we are ſorry to ſay that no certain intelligence has been obtained. A deſcription of the perpetrator, and of the property loſt will be found in the following advertiſement:

200 *Dollars Reward for apprehending*

BENJAMIN CONNET.

He is about 22 years of age; of a middle ſize; ſwarthy complexion; has long black hair, tied with a riband; has a remarkably large mole above his left eyebrow, which he takes pains to conceal by ſuffering his hair to grow long upon his forehead. Had on a light colored great coat, a blue ſtrait coat, ſwanſdown jacket, light colored caſſimere pantaloons. Took with him two horſes, one of which is grey, the other black, and about four years old; a woman's ſaddle, new, with a piece of