

base, because of the natural situation of that city; but the Court of Berlin has been entirely passive in the affair. This is the true state of the case, which shews that our Court has never had any other view than to obtain by an ample equivalent, the cession of two cities which are entirely surrounded by the Prussian territories, and by that means to lay the foundation of a commerce reciprocally advantageous, and to remove the obstacles which arise from the situation of those cities. These explanations ought to convince an impartial Public of the falsity of the pretended views of aggrandisement attributed to the Court of Berlin."

MADRID, APRIL 3.

M. Zenowief, Ambassador from Petersburg, has lately received a courier extraordinary from his Court.

The Russian Cabinet, wishing to be assured of the disposition of our's, and in order to gain their confidence, have explained the principles of their conduct with respect to the mediating powers at Reichenbach, in which the Court of Russia has laid great stress upon their moderation in not requiring, after all their successes, more than Oczakow and the adjacent country to the borders of the Niester.

The answer from our Court was satisfactory, and attended with promises of every good office in favour of Russia, by charging our negotiators to support the moderate pretensions of the Court of Petersburg.

The Court expects the speedy arrival of the galleons from Mexico and Peru, with 14 millions of piastres in gold and silver.

Don Francis de Boria, commander of the fleet at Cadiz, has made such a disposition for assembling a strong squadron, as should seem to indicate an immediate armament.

FRANCE.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

APRIL 18.

DEBATE OF SERIOUS CONSEQUENCE.

Read an address from the directors of the department of Paris, reminding the Assembly that they had issued formerly a declaration relative to public worship, and entreating that the Assembly would take the necessary measures to enforce what the dictatorial declaration enjoins, and to enact a law, according to which, those who are refractory may be exemplarily punished.

M. de Biauzet said, that it had been his intention to have laid this declaration before the Assembly, and moved, that it be

referred to the committee of the constitution.

He was opposed by M. d'Andre, who was, in his turn, answered by M. Goupil. This gentleman observed, that the directors of the department had assumed to themselves a legislative power, by daring to publish declarations, much in the same manner as the legislature has encroached on the prerogatives of the king.

You may perceive, says the honourable deputy, the abyss of your federative constitution open before your eyes. You will soon have as many republics as departments.

M. de Jesse insisted, that the dictatorial declaration went no farther than the declaration of rights authorized, and that the Assembly had consecrated the principle, that "every man is at liberty to do whatever he pleases, which is not contrary to law." How much more essential is it, in order that this liberty be complete, that every man should be allowed to meet his fellow creatures in a place of public worship?

It becomes you, says the orator, to be on your guard against the fury of fanaticism, which seems directed by some invisible power. It is like a volcano whose effects are irresistible, and which bursts with more extrusive mischief the more it is opposed. You must endeavour to find a vent for its fury, else you may dread a sudden eruption.

M. Trielhard wished to refer the subject to the committee, in order that it might be hereafter discussed by the Assembly; but he was opposed by M. Buzot, who observed, that such a discussion would kindle afresh the fuel of discord, and make it rage uncontrolled.

M. de Buzot concluded, by wishing the directorial declaration should be approved by the Assembly, and addressed to all the departments.

It was resolved, that the Abbe Syeyes, member of the board of directors, should be heard on this subject.

The Abbe ascended the tribune, and attempted to justify the proceedings of the directors. He observed that public order was no more; on one side is anarchy and intolerance, and fanaticism on the other; that the churches built at the expense of the nation, were open to the enemies of the public good; and that, with a view to avoid this scandal, the directors, countenanced by M. de Lessart's letters to them on the troubles of Paris, had resolved to publish this proclamation, viz. "That every citizen shall be supported in the maintenance of his religious opinions, so long as they are not contrary to public order."

M. de Foleville complained most bitterly, by proxy, of the severe floggings which had been inflicted on several of the female canons and nuns.

But M. Maury, foaming with wrath, treated this business very seriously and very properly. He observed, that while the mob were employed in flogging priests, monks, canons, both male and female, &c. so far from punishing the authors of those atrocious proceedings, the directors seemed by their conduct to encourage them.

He said that, in the present instance, the directors had far exceeded the intention of the legislature. If they are afraid of clandestine assembling, why do they not shut up the churches against us?

These last words were construed as being seditious; and a motion was made, that the Abbe should be censured. Immediately the whole Cul de sac was in uproar; and M. de Montsilauer moved, in his turn, that the President himself should be censured.

The noise and tumult which followed, beggars all description; it was at length terminated by adjournment.

APRIL 19.

At two o'clock the President read a letter from the King, stating his design to come to the National Assembly.

The King shortly after entered. The most profound silence took place. Every one rose. He took his seat by the side of the President. The Ministers took their stations beneath, and the rest of the suite within the bar.

There was then pronounced, with firmness and sensibility, the following

SPEECH BY THE KING:

"GENTLEMEN,

"I come into the midst of you with that confidence which I have ever testified in you. You have been informed of the obstruction which I yesterday experienced to my departure to Saint Cloud. I would not consent that it should be repelled by force, from the fear of occasioning acts of severity against a deceived multitude, who thought they were acting in conformity to the laws, at the time they were infringing upon them. But it behoves the nation to prove that I am free: Nothing is so essential to the authority of the sanctions and of the acceptations which I have given to your decrees. For this potent reason, therefore, I persist in my intention of going to Saint Cloud, of which the National Assembly will feel the necessity. It seems as if, for the purpose of instigating a faithful people, whose affection I have deserved by what I have done for them, endeavours