

expressed himself, if not actually at war, at least towards whom he has declared himself in the spirit of hostility.—of a people marked out by the common enemy of Europe as the victims of tyranny and plunder, and that enemy the ally of Mr. JEFFERSON! SIR FRANCIS BARING should have recollected that the toast, which has so often been alluded to, might give offence to the Spanish Deputies, and, through their reports, disgust the Spanish nation; and that the omission of it could give offence to no individual present. The line of conduct which he had to pursue, was therefore prescribed by the circumstances in which he found himself placed; by the rule which I have ventured to give, to mark it with discretion, with delicacy, and with the stamp of public approbation.

SIR FRANCIS BARING, on this occasion, was selected as High Priest of Patriotism, and he should not have defecrated the sacrifices by such an unholy offering.

So far I consider the toast to be objectionable, as it relates to Spain; it is equally so, as it relates to England. SIR FRANCIS tells the Public, in his letter, that "all the friendly Governments, with their respective Sovereigns, were given in regular succession: Spain, Portugal, Sweden, Sicily, concluding with America." "My situation," says the Chairman, "was a public one, and it was not permitted for me to indulge in a private opinion or feeling; strict impartiality and correct propriety demanded that I should propose, and not omit, America, with whom we are in amity and friendship, placing that country on an equal footing with the rest." Now, Sir, it is notoriously known to all the world, that SIR F. BARING is bloated with the wealth which he has acquired by his commercial dealings with America; it is therefore a fair presumption, that he has a predilection in favour of those who have filled his coffers even to repletion; that predilection shewed itself on a late occasion, paying at once a large arrears of gratitude on his part, and disgusting every patriot mind in the British Empire. We are told, too, that the relations of "amity and friendship" still remain unbroken between England and America. What, has the worthy Baronet been locked up in his study for the last twelve months, cut off from all knowledge of what was passing in the world? Has he never heard that America has driven us from her shores and treated us as a den of outlaws; that her PRESIDENT has drawn up a Bill of Indictment against the English Government, and distributed it throughout Europe? America: it is true, she has not yet drawn the sword against us, but she has sharpened it for action, and will use it whenever occasion shall present itself—whenever NAPOLEON shall have subdued Spain, whose Deputies we lately invited to a great entertainment!—whenever he shall be in a condition to lead his myriads to the shores of Britain, to consummate his own threats and to gratify the rapacity of his guilty followers. It is peace in the spirit of war which now subsists between us, and that spirit evoked from hell by MR. JEFFERSON, whose health SIR FRANCIS BARING, one of the richest and most respectable merchants of England, lately toasted at a great public assembly, held in the metropolis of his own country.

In private life it is well known, that a man's affections will often lead him from a strict line of impartiality. This failing approaches very nearly to a virtue; but in public life, where extended interests are concerned, our principles, at least our decisions, should be modelled to our duties and our situation. SIR FRANCIS reads and reflects, and should have recollected the preceding short maxim. Had he recollected it, the toast of the late dinner would never have been given, and he would have avoided the imputation of being the partisan of a man, the known and avowed enemy of England and Spain—of a man, the ally of a tyrant, who is equally the enemy of both. Your most obedient servant,  
August 15. PACIFICATOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR—The fair, constitutional, yet mild remarks you made on the conduct of SIR FRANCIS BARING, at the late dinner, has, I perceive, drawn from that Gentleman what he supposes a sufficient explanation. That SIR FRANCIS BARING should have condescended to publish such a letter (from his known worth and respectability) is truly astonishing; for if he could not resolve to detail the whole facts of the case, it would have been far better to have suffered the matter to rest. It is not my intention, Mr. Editor, to take up much of your time, but I trust you will have the candour to insert the following statement, for the truth of which I sincerely pledge my word.

The toasts were certainly arranged by the Committee, and sent to the printer's. A copy was of course handed to SIR FRANCIS BARING, as Chairman, for his inspection. These I printed were the toasts of the Committee; but SIR FRANCIS has forgotten to tell the world that after the toasts were approved and printed, he himself sent on the very day of the dinner to have the toast as it stood, viz. "The United States of America" altered to the objectionable form in which it was given, "The President and the United States of America." This, Mr. Editor, is very materially different from SIR FRANCIS's statement.

I am at a loss to know why it was chosen to hand about the toasts in English and French rather than English and Spanish. Are we, on all occasions, to prefer the French to every other foreign language, and to compel the Spaniards to the same? I am Mr. Editor,  
12th August, 1808. VERAX.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR—The present eventful crisis in the affairs of Europe will naturally call forth the prompt and most vigorous exertions of the British Government, the only source from whence a plan of operations, adequate to the importance of circumstances, can emanate and be put in motion with a reasonable prospect of success, in effecting the deliverance of enslaved Europe.

The late glorious achievements of the Spanish Patriots have already operated, in a great measure, towards dispelling the universal gloom, and re-animating the desponding countenance of oppressed nations. Sixty thousand invincibles (a sixth part of BONAPARTE's disposable force)

have, within the short space of two months, been swept from the surface of Spain. Double that number of conquerors are already at the foot of the Pyrenees, in pursuit of the flying foe. JUNOT must inevitably surrender; his ineffectual resistance can, at all events, only be protracted a few days. The French, thus subdued and disheartened, will henceforward be more cautious for their own safety, and less formidable to their opponents.

With Austria, hostilities are said to have already commenced. Two hundred thousand men, at least, of the Corsican's best troops, will be required to cope with that Power; yet Austria, abandoned to herself (fatal experience has repeatedly proved), is an unequal match for France.—Powerful diversions are therefore necessary to assist her in her defence, and dispatch is the word, for BONAPARTE will exert all his ways and means to make a Prussian campaign of it; and, if he succeeds, all the achievements in Spain will eventually produce nothing to the advantage of the common cause.

The remaining French forces in Holland, the northern provinces of Germany, the frontiers of Spain, and all Italy, cannot together exceed one hundred thousand men; and these dispersed at so many distant points, must be every where weak and inefficient.

Setting Russia out of the question, and allowing her to remain neutral in the contest, what a promising field is now open for the successful exertion of British power and influence; with a formidable army of our own afloat, eager to distinguish itself in the path of glory! Fifty thousand men, landing on the hospitable shores of Asturias and Biscay, may encamp without opposition on the frontiers, and in the face of the enemy. It is a consideration of the greatest importance, that the Spanish Patriots now in the field, elated with victory, the deliverers of their own capital and country, will be found in a temper which should not be neglected, nor allowed to tame by inaction. France has invaded Spain; the Spaniards will be eager to retaliate. It is a truth well known, that all the maritime provinces of France, and particularly the southern, are grievously disaffected, with the Corsican yoke; they only wait for an opportunity to manifest their sentiments, and will, if properly encouraged, join heart and hand with their deliverers, in accelerating the destruction of their tyrant.

Another immediate and essential diversion should be made in Italy. After the outrageous insults that devoted country has lately suffered, no doubt can be entertained of its ready co-operation in the cause of revenge. Naples, Rome, and Tuscany, have been the alternate tools of the Corsican's revolutionary caprice, and are at this moment in a state of anarchy, without a lawful Sovereign to protect them. The example of Spain, and the prospect of returning social order and tranquillity, will inspire the inhabitants with a degree of ardour and heroism equal to the task. Under these circumstances, a British force landing in Calabria, would be received with enthusiasm, and meet little or no opposition in its progress.

Holland also, according to late accounts, has manifested a serious disposition towards her emancipation, and should therefore, by all possible means of persuasion, be encouraged to avail herself of the auspicious moment. Thus little doubt could be entertained with respect to the ultimate event of such a contest; but indulging me for a moment in the happy illusion of a complete success in the struggle, a great and serious question still remains to be discussed—a question inseparably connected with the main object in view, which is the re-establishment of the tranquillity and independence of Europe! Nations can only be expected to rally under the standard of an unobjectionable pledge for future security. This pledge the wisdom of Providence has also intrusted to our possession. All prejudice and personal animosity out of the question, the only man on earth who can contend the throne of France with the usurper, is LOUIS XVIII. The case is reduced to the simple alternative between legality and usurpation; and will not such a plea command the patriotic sentiment and support of the world? The experience of past events has enlightened the minds of men to their true interests, and established a persuasion which heretofore the force of arms attempted in vain to accomplish. France must be aware, that her lawful Sovereign can alone restore to her the blessings of social intercourse, and the goodwill of mankind. It is not a second BONAPARTE, nor any other aspiring candidate, of whatever origin or condition he may be, that can reconcile the existing discords in Europe. But LOUIS XVIII, ascending the throne of his ancestors, on terms of magnanimity, a general amnesty held out in persuasive Proclamations to the Armies and the Nation indiscriminately, security of persons and property to all, and finally a general Peace guaranteed by England, Spain, Austria, and Sweden. Such a prospect will act, as a talisman on the broken spirits of desponding Gaul. A few obscure individuals only of the BONAPARTE family and their nearest adherents can have any interest in maintaining the actual preposterous magnitude and extent of the heterogeneous Empire. None of the lawful Potentates of Europe can be supposed to object to the re-establishment (as near as present circumstances will warrant) of the anti-revolutionary balance of dominion; on the contrary, all will be gainers thereby, and France herself will be most essentially benefited by the restoration of her commerce and colonies, in exchange for the usurped territories, which can only be considered as burthens calculated to embarrass the legal administration of that country. No dissension, or party interest, can have sufficient weight to obstruct the execution of such a plan: it will satisfy the hopes and wishes of the present generation, and establish a proud and indelible claim to the thanks of posterity. The Corsican dynasty, the curse and execration of mankind, will cease to defile the pages of history with its disgraceful exploits.  
August 13. A. B.

PORTUGAL.

PARTICULARS RESPECTING THE CAMPAIGN IN PORTUGAL.

In the battle of the 21st, the French had in the field about 15,200 men, of whom 1200 were cavalry; this latter force by no means distinguished itself, not having once

come to a charge in the course of the day; but its position and numbers were formidable, and it contributed to keep a considerable body of the British troops in check, occupied by watching its movements. Their uniform was green.

The boasted French artillery on this day was served in every respect far inferiorly to that of the English. Indeed it is impossible to convey an idea of the precision with which the latter was directed, and the execution it made in the ranks of the enemy. The Shrapnell Shells (so called from their inventor, Colonel Shrapnell, of the artillery) in particular, made dreadful havoc among the ranks of the French. They contain about 100 musket bullets, and are calculated to explode at given distances, on which they instantly spread death and devastation around. Indeed so much were the French dismayed at the effects of this novel instrument of war, that many of the grenadiers, who were made prisoners, declared that they could not stand it, and were literally raken lying down on the ground, or under cover of bushes and the high banks of some ditches in the field of battle.

The honor of the French Military character was, however, for some time nobly supported by its infantry. Their order of attack was in column, a mode of warfare which they have hitherto successfully practised against the Austrian and other troops of the Continent. On this occasion, however, it entirely failed. So far from attaining the object of this manœuvre, that of penetrating the English line, and taking it then in flank to the right and left, they never approached near enough for the British bayonet to act, that their heads of columns were not invariably broken, and the whole thrown into confusion. What also contributed materially to their defeat was the scientific manner in which the Commander in Chief met this species of attack.

The French army advanced in three large columns, in such a manner as to bring them all to bear upon the British left and centre. Invariably as each advanced, independently of the resistance it met in the front, it was taken on each flank by the fire of corps advanced for that purpose, by a small change in their position; by which means they lost a surprising number of men before they could put it to the issue of the bayonet. In no case did the French come to the resort of this latter weapon, that they were not instantly broken, not standing its push an instant.

The advance of the enemy to the attack was impetuous, and even furious. As they approached, they saluted the English with every opprobrious epithet in which their language is so eminently fertile. While, on the contrary, the latter, in derision, cheered them as they approached. Their dress was singular; it was blue, with white facings: over the whole of which was worn a white woollen surcoat, somewhat like a waggoner's smock-frock; their caps square, like those of the Hussars; and goat-skin knapfacks. Their musketry was throughout formidable, particularly that of two Swiss regiments in their service, who behaved most gallantly. Their voltigeurs were, upon the whole, good, but far inferior in activity and real service to the English riflemen.

The proportion of forces in the field was greatly in favor of the English; not so of those who were actually engaged. Of the latter, not above 9000 were brought to action, whilst every man of the French told. When the French retreated, General Hill's wing, which formed the second line of the British army, and were destined to receive the French had they penetrated the first, had not fired a gun, were quite fresh, and might have been led in pursuit of the enemy immediately, had it been deemed right so to have done.

In short, the battle of Vimiera was decided by superior Generalship in the Leader, and superior bravery in the Soldier—every manœuvre was practised in it which could arise out of the combined and various movements of attack and defence—repeated change of position occurred on both sides, and the palm of victory was at length the prize of him who best deserved to wear it, after a long and arduous contest of nearly four hours.

In considering the relative merit of the Privates of the French army with those of their Leaders, the credit must clearly be given to the former, for during the battle no distinguishing act of valour could with justice be ascribed to the Officer; while the soldier, generally speaking, acted with marked gallantry and courage. An instance of the determined spirit with which the individuals of both nations fought, may be collected from the following circumstance, which we vouch for as strictly true:—In skirmishing, one of the English riflemen, and a voltigeur of the French army, having levelled at each other, both shots took effect, and both were extended on the ground. In this position, desperately wounded, they contrived to screw on their bayonets, and, crawling towards each other, continued to fight until the Englishman drove his weapon through the body of his antagonist!

After the battle was at an end, the national feeling and humanity of Britons were greatly distinguishable. On every side was to be seen the Conquerors running with water to their late antagonists; giving every comfort in their power to the dying foe, who lay in heaps on the field of battle; or conveying the wounded French to their own hospitals! This noble conduct was so conspicuous as to extort a reluctant tribute of praise from General Kellerman, who arrived at the British Head-Quarters at Maceira on the 22d, with a Flag of Truce, and who heard enough from his countrymen, then prisoners in the Camp, to convince him that the French had to deal with an enemy to the full as generous as he himself had found them brave!

Respecting the French Generals engaged on that day, a few words may not be uninteresting. Of the personal conduct of Junot, who commanded at the battle of Vimiera, little is known. The captured Officers, and even those of high rank, spoke very slightly, and even with reprobation of his manœuvres during the action. Individually, however, their language was highly respectful towards him; he was always "the Duke;" and the system of equality, in the armies at least of France, seems to be utterly abhorrent to the reigning practice.

General Loison is as little spoken of; he has, however, the reputation of being an able man.

General Laborde distinguished himself at Roteira on the 17th, when the mountain passes were so ably concerted with