

FROM THE FRENCH PAPERS.

THE INTERESTING CASE OF FUALDES COURT OF ASSIZE OF ALBI, APRIL 3.

The celebrated Madame Manson has at length broken that silence which has thrown such a mysterious interest around the trial of the assassins of M. Fualdes. "Never," says the French Journalists, "did a scene more eminently dramatic astonish the auditory of any tribunal—never did the Clairons, the Rancourts, of tragic memory, produce upon their spectators an effect so instantaneous, so horrible. Every one groaned—Bastide alone appeared calm." But to proceed to particulars:—

The Court were on the 3d of April, in the course of examining one Sieur Blanc, who had had some conversation with Madame Manson about the assassination of M. Fualdes, when the Procureur-General put the following questions to her:—

Did you say to the witness, "My deposition will kill them," or something to that purpose?"

Madame Manson.—"I cannot charge myself with these expressions I said, perhaps, that the conduct of the accused, in respect of me, during the trial, might lead them to the scaffold, I added, that Madame Pons depended upon me; but that I was not at the house of Bancal; that they implicated me very improperly on this affair; and that I knew not how to extricate myself from so difficult a situation."

The Widow Bancal.—"Madame I beseech you tell the truth."

M. Dobernard.—"Madame, in the name of that God, whose eye is upon you, tell the truth; I conjure you in the name of justice and of society."

Bastide rising.—"And I also, Madame, I conjure you tell the truth."

Madame Manson (advancing between the two gens-darmes).—"Look at me, Bastide; do you know me?"

Bastide, confused.—"No, I do not know you!"

Madame Manson struck the ground with her foot, her eyes flashed fire, and in a tone which carried terror into the soul of every spectator, she articulated these solemn words:—

"Vous etes un matheureux Bastide! —Vous avez voulu me gorger!"—You are a wretched man, Bastide! you wished to have murdered me!

A general cry burst from the auditory: a moment of dread silence succeeded: again the Hall resounded with plaudits, which all the respect due to the Temple of Themis could not restrain. Bastide endeavored to appear calm—Jausion was terrified.

After some moments, the agitation of the assembly subsided, and

M. Fualdes, the son, rose.—"I beseech you, Madame Manson, finish your work. You have told a part of the truth—unveil the whole. You have been explicit, in respect of Bastide—you have signalized him as one of the assassins of my unfortunate father, Make known the other criminals."

PROCURER-GENERAL.—"Yes, it is necessary that Madame Manson should complete her revelation; it is necessary that she should unfold to our eyes all the particulars of that horrid scene of which Providence has made her the witness."

The agitation of Madame Manson from the moment that the awful secret escaped her was such, that she could not reply to these urgent appeals. The Court, in order to give her time to recover herself, suspended the proceedings for a short time; and on resuming, the President asked her if she could now proceed? Madame Manson had only strength to utter a faint expression to the contrary, and the Court, actuated by a humane consideration for her feelings, adjourned till the following day, when it is probable the opinion of the public will at last be determined as to the part which this inexplicable personage had acted in this horrid mystery.

SITTING OF APRIL 4TH.

The examination of Madame Manson excited great expectation. All the avenues to the Court were filled at an early hour.

M. President.—"Madame Manson, you yesterday charged the prisoner Bastide with an attempt to murder you, yet you left the house alive.—Great emotion on the part of Bastide, who directed a terrible look at

Madame Manson, as if to restrain her instantly.—How is the fact?"

Madame Manson (endeavouring to conquer her distress).—"I cannot class all the particulars in my head, but what will never escape my memory is, that this horrible man attempted to murder me."

M. President.—"Who then saved you?"

Madame Manson (with a low voice).—"Yes; some one saved me."

President.—"Was this man among the assassins, or did he come in by chance?"

Madame Manson.—"I cannot say, but I shall never forget that he snatched me from the hands of that wretch."

M. President.—"Is this man among the prisoners?"

Madame Manson.—"It is possible, Sir." (The looks and tone of Madame Manson, in answering these questions, seemed to attest that the person who saved her was seated on the bench of the prisoners.)

Being urged by the Judges, and by the prisoner Jausion to name the person, Madame Manson, with a melancholy expression, continued, "M. President, I can neither save nor convict Jausion."—(She put her handkerchief to her face, and sought to avoid the sight of Jausion, who followed her with his eyes.)

Bastide reproaches her, and is checked by the President.

Bastide.—"I am tranquil; my conscience reproaches me with nothing."

Madame Manson (looking at him steadily).—"Your conscience reproaches you with nothing!" (Addressing herself to the President.) "Let Bastide prove his innocence, and I will mount the scaffold in his place."

Bastide.—"Prove my innocence! Ah! that is not difficult. Madame Manson thinks to intimidate us. Madame Manson has said one thing at Rhodéz, and another here."

Madame Manson.—"Bastide, you know it—I lied at Rhodéz, and have spoken the truth at Albi!"

The Councillor PINAUD.—"You said that you took a terrible oath at the house of Bancal. Can't you recollect the persons who were about you at the time?"

Madame Manson.—"I recollect none but the man whom I have mentioned."

Bastide.—"What brought you to the house of Bancal?"

M. Manson.—"I watched the steps of some one, and had a right to do so, but hearing the noise of several men's feet I took refuge in the first open door I met."

SITTING OF THE 6TH.

Several witnesses were examined.

The woman Brst declared that she saw Bastide in the house of Bancal on the 19th—does not recollect the precise hour. It was after four in the afternoon.

(For a continuation, see last page.)

LONDON, MAY 11.

We give the remaining Letters of our Paris Correspondent this day, and though we rely on the purity of his motives, respect the strength of his judgement, and are fully sensible that his opportunities enable him to form a very probable estimate of the state of affairs in France, yet we are by no means satisfied with the reasons which he gives for the expediency of removing the Allied Troops. He describes the people of France as proud and courageous. We doubt not their pride or their courage, but we fear the direction which those feelings might take if they were left to act as they please. It is admitted, that the Government has powerful enemies, and that the Ministers have a difficult task to balance and controul them. We do not conceive that the leading men in France, of any party, feel so much a high sense of the indignity which their country suffers in the presence of foreign troops, as in the resistance which those foreign troops, might offer, if they attempt to carry their ambitious projects into execution. The real friends of the country, who are capable of reflection, must know that nothing like insult was intended by the Allied Potentates. Their object was to protect the good people of France from those of a contrary nature. The evil of the Revolution is by no means at an end. Factious spirits abound in all quarters of the Country, and if the Thorne and its loyal adherents were not protected by the Allied Forces, those factious spirits would soon raise their heads, a civil war would probably ensue, the Throne would be demolished, and the

whole work of defending Europe would be again the necessary duty of every component State.—Our Correspondent maintains, that if the French Ministers possess wisdom, they will be able to save the Country without the foreign troops. But suppose they want wisdom and firmness to despise the clamours, and resist the machinations, of their enemies?—the peace and security of Europe ought not to depend on so precarious a condition.—We find that those whom our Correspondent deems the wisest and the purest characters in France are constantly assailed by factious Partizans, and if those Partizans gain confidence by the removal of all controuling authority, and see a consequent opening to power, it will be impossible to keep them under, and the most fatal effects might be expected to ensue. As to what are called the Ultras, we respect their feelings, but we pity their want of judgement; for if they can possibly hope, after the total change of the French character in general, to see the ancient order of things restored, they must be dead to experience and sunk into fatuity. Such men are wholly out of all political consideration. Their weakness renders them even ridiculous, and the rude spirit of more intelligent characters, and the determined fierceness of Jacobism, would soon reduce them to total insignificance. Upon the whole, we see no security for the integrity of France, and the tranquillity of other States, but in the continuance of the Allied Troops on the French territory till there is a moral, political, and physical certainty that France is able to protect herself against the contending factions within her own bosom, most of whom endeavour to cover their ambition with a pretence of feeling for the character of their country, and to an honourable indignation on the intrusion of any foreign authority.

MAY 14.

Our Readers will recollect, that as soon as the American President's Message, on the opening of Congress, arrived in town, we pointed out the ambitious hostility by which it was characterized, illustrating our opinions and arguments by reference to many of its suspicious alarming passages. We received many compliments from competent authorities, indeed, of the most respectable and intelligent description, on the views which we had taken on the subject. We now find that, regardless of existing Treaties, the American Government has thrown off the mask, and has passed a Bill three times through Congress, intended to prevent British vessels, which may arrive from our West India possessions after the 30th of September, from entering the ports of the United States. We shall resume the consideration of this important subject, which seems to be pregnant with war between Great Britain and America, and in the mean time we trust that our Rulers will weigh deeply the consequence which may arise from such an act of hostile policy on the part of the American Government.

IMPORTANT CIRCULAR.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

WASHINGTON, 25th May, 1818.

SIR.—The Act of Congress 'Concerning Navigation,' hereto annexed, which is to take effect the first day of October next, so materially changes the commerce of the U. States with the colonies and territories of his Britannic Majesty, that a due regard to the convenience and interest of those engaged in it, requires that the construction of the act should at this time be determined.

According to the term used under the first section of the act, every port or place in the British colonies or territories in the West Indies, and on the continent of America, must be considered as closed against vessels of the United States to which they are not by act of Parliament permitted to carry on the same trade both in exports and imports, which is now, or shall be carried on in British vessels between the ports of the U. States and the ports of any British colony or territory.

The permissions by act of Parliament to vessels of the U. States, to go in ballast to Turks Island and bring away salt, or to carry certain articles to one or more of the Bahama Islands, and bring away salt and a few other articles, cannot be considered as opening the ports of those Islands to the vessels of the U. States, according to the intention of the act of Congress, whilst Bri-

tish vessels are permitted to carry on the same trade in articles prohibited to vessels of the U. States.

It may be proper to observe that the prohibition in the first section applies equally to vessels whether in ballast or with cargoes.

The form of the bond required by the second section of the act is hereto annexed. It is expected that proper circumspection will be exercised in requiring security, as much of the efficacy of the act will depend upon the judicious discharge of this part of your duty.

I am very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servant, W. H. CRAWFORD. Collector, port of Alexandria, D. C.

AMERICAN NAVIGATION ACT.

[LONDON, May 15.]

From America, we have a piece of intelligence, not wholly unexpected, on a subject which is by no means new. Our readers are aware, that some time since a bill was referred to the Committee of Foreign Relations, the object of which was to counteract the influence of the British navigation laws on the shipping interest of the United States, so far as affected the commercial intercourse of the United States with the colonies of Great Britain. A bill was reported by the committee for this purpose, and passed by the Senate with only one dissentient voice; it was afterwards carried to the other House of Congress, and adopted by the immense majority of 126 to 16. The first section of this act provides, that, from the 30th next September, the ports of the United States shall be closed against every vessel, the property of a British subject, coming from any port in the dominions of G. Britain which is closed against the merchantmen of the United States.

The second section exacts bonds from British vessels outward bound from American ports, and laden with American produce, that they shall not land their cargoes at any British ports prohibited in the first section. Thus we see that the first clause prevents the export of English colonial produce in English vessels to America; and the second prohibits the supply of the English colonies with lumber, provisions, or other necessaries from America, in ships belonging to Great Britain.—The Americans have a lawful right to enforce against our colonies the same restraints which we have set the example of establishing in the commerce of our colonies with the States of North America. It becomes a mere consideration of interest who shall continue these repelling regulations longest, or who shall be the first to give in. Our colonists supply America with rum, sugar & molasses, while she gives them in return the necessaries of life. It is undoubtedly true that the people of the United States can procure, by other means than a direct importation from the British islands, the colonial produce which they require. They can obtain it from islands the property of other nations; they can import it in their own (American) vessels from Europe. They can even, on extremity, if driven to extremity, exist without the use of any West India productions. How stands the case on our side? We obtain from the United States many articles of prime necessity to our colonists. The Americans have boasted that they could starve the West Indies when they pleased. Now it is a serious question how far it may be consistent with sound policy to leave the inhabitants of our West India island dependent for their subsistence on a foreign power—a power of which we are inclined to speak respectfully—but one which is doubtless the rival of England in peace, and which has been, and may again be, her enemy in war. If such dependance be deemed an evil, the question occurs—is it a necessary evil? Can our islands, by any political or economical expedient, be subsisted from any market but that of the United States? We have, in fact, already had some experience on this subject; for we are assured that, during the late war with America, our own colonies on that continent supplied the islands, if not abundantly, at least tolerably well with what they wanted. If these colonies of Canada, Nova-Scotia, Newfoundland, &c. were assured of a constant preference over all foreign nations, in supplying the demands of the British islands, we might probably find them fully equal, on the whole, to a regular and permanent discharge of that important