

seek the restoration of the old government by the intervention of foreign powers. Collecting first at Turin, and afterwards at Coblenz,<sup>1</sup> they endeavored to stir up rebellion in the provinces, and solicited Louis to sanction their plans, and join their meditated armaments. Louis, accompanied by his queen and children, attempted to escape secretly to the frontiers, but was stopped and brought back a prisoner to his capital. (June 1791.) The Jacobins now argued that the king's flight was abdication; and the National Assembly, to appease the popular outcry, provisionally suspended him from his functions, until the constitution, now nearly completed, was presented to him for acceptance. On the 14th of September, 1791, he took the oath to maintain it against civil discord and foreign aggression, and to enforce its execution to the utmost of his power. The *Constituent Assembly*, as that which framed the constitution is often called, after having passed a self-denying ordinance that none of its members should be elected to the next Assembly, declared itself dissolved on the 30th of September, 1791.

17. But the constitution, thus established, could not be permanent, for the minds of the French people were still agitated by the passion for change, and the members of the new *Legislative Assembly* soon displayed opinions more radical, and divisions more numerous, than their predecessors. The court and the nobility had exercised no influence in the late elections; the upholders of even a mitigated aristocracy had disappeared; the assembly was thoroughly democratic; and the only question that seemed to remain for it was the maintenance or the overthrow of the constitutional throne. The chief parties in the assembly, at its opening were the constitutionalists and the republicans,—the latter were more usually called Girondists, as their most celebrated leaders, Brissot, Petion, and Condorcet, were members from the department of the Gironde. The constitutionalists would have preserved the throne, while they stripped it of its power; but the Girondists, enthusiastic admirers of the Americans, despising the vain shadow of royalty, longed for republican institutions on the model of antiquity. The Jacobins, who were anarchists, men without principles, and attached to no particular form of gov-

1. Coblenz, (the *Confluentes* of the Rhine,) is a Prussian town in the province of the Rhine, at the confluence of the Rhine and Moselle. Since the wars of Napoleon it has been strongly fortified, and is now deemed one of the principal bulwarks of Germany on the side of France. (Map No. XVII.)

ernment, possessed at first little influence in the assembly, but directing the passions of the populace, and possessing the means of rousing at pleasure the strength of the capital, they soon acquired a preponderating influence that bore down all opposition, and crushed the more moderate revolutionary party of the Girondists.

18. The legislative assembly commenced its sittings by confiscating the property of the emigrants, and denouncing the penalties of treason against those refractory priests who refused to take the oath to support the constitution; but the king refused to sanction the decrees. It was the great object of the Girondists to involve the kingdom in foreign war; and the warlike preparations of the Austrian emperor and the German princes, evidently designed to support the emigrants, rendered it an easy matter to carry out their designs. When an open declaration of his objects was demanded of the Austrian emperor, he required as a condition on which he would discontinue his preparations, that France should return to the form and principles of government which existed at the time of the commencement of the constituent assembly. Against his own judgment the king yielded to the force of public opinion, and on the 20th of April, 1792, war was declared against the court of Vienna. It must be admitted that the war which arose from so feeble beginnings, but which at length involved the world in its conflagration, was not provoked by France, but by the foreign powers which unjustly interposed to regulate the laws and government of the French people.

19. While the strife of parties continued in Paris, producing confusion in the councils of the assembly, and increasing anxiety and alarm in the mind of the king, a formidable force was assembling on the German frontier with the avowed object of putting down the Revolution, and restoring to the king the rights of which he had been deprived. The king of Prussia and the emperor of Austria engaged to cooperate for this purpose; and their united forces were placed under the command of the Duke of Brunswick, who, towards the end of July, entered the French territories at the head of a hundred and forty thousand men. The threatening manifesto which he issued roused at once the spirit of resistance throughout every part of France; the demagogues seized the occasion to direct the popular fury against the court, which was accused of leaguering with the enemy; and the two prominent factions, the Girondists and Jacobins, com-

XII. WAR  
DECLARED  
AGAINST  
AUSTRIA.

bined to overturn the monarchy, each with the view of advancing its own separate ambitious designs.

20. The dethronement of the king was now vehemently discussed in all the popular assemblies; preparations were made in Paris for a general revolt; and soon after midnight on the morning of the 10th of August, an infuriate mob attacked and pillaged the palace, massacred the Swiss guards, and forced the king and royal family to seek shelter in the hall of the National Assembly. The assembly protected the person of the king, but, yielding to the demands of the conquering populace, passed a decree suspending the royal functions, dismissed the ministers, and directed the immediate convocation of a National Convention. La Fayette, then in command of the army on the eastern frontier, having in vain endeavored to keep his troops firm in their allegiance, and being outlawed by the assembly, fled into the Netherlands, but was seized and imprisoned by the Austrians. Dumouriez, who had adhered to the assembly, succeeded to the command, and made energetic preparations to resist the coming invasion.

21. The massacre of the 10th of August was soon followed by another of still more frightful atrocity. The prisons of Paris had become filled with suspected persons; and the leaders of the Jacobins, now occupying the chief places in the magistracy, in order to diminish the number of their internal enemies planned the massacre of the prisoners. Accordingly, at three o'clock on the morning of the 2d of September, a band of three hundred hired assassins, accompanied by a frantic mob, entered the prisons, and began the work of death. In the court yard of the first prison four and twenty priests were hewn in pieces because they refused to take the revolutionary oath. In some instances the assassins, stained with gore, established tribunals to try their victims, and a few minutes, often a few seconds, disposed of the fate of each individual. The massacres continued from the 2d to the 6th of September, and during this period more than five thousand persons perished in the different prisons of Paris. A committee of the municipality of Paris, declaring that a plot had been formed by the prisoners throughout France to murder all the patriots of the empire, invited the other cities to imitate the massacres of the capital, but, fortunately, none obeyed the summons.

22. While these shocking excesses were perpetrated in the capital,

XIII.  
MASSACRE.  
OF THE  
TENTH OF  
AUGUST.

XIV. MASSA-  
CRE OF  
SEPTEMBER.

the armies of Prussia and Austria, which had invaded the French territories, met with a signal repulse. Dumouriez, pursuing his successes, crossed the Belgian frontier, and on the 6th of November gained the battle of Jemappes,<sup>1</sup> which gave him possession of all the Austrian Netherlands. With so much rapidity and decision did Dumouriez execute the skilful movements of the army, that the allies soon found there was no want of able generals among the French. At the battle of Jemappes, the enthusiasm and martial spirit of the French, displaying themselves in all their brilliancy, bore down all obstacles, and redoubt after redoubt was stormed and taken, to the chant of the *Marseilles Hymn*.<sup>a</sup>

23. The National Convention, which had succeeded the Legislative Assembly, inflamed by this first great victory of the Revolution, published a decree offering the alliance of the French to every nation that desired to recover its liberties,—a decree which was equivalent to a declaration of war against all the monarchies of Europe. One step further was necessary to complete the Revolution, and that was the death of the kind-hearted and unfortunate monarch. On the ridiculous charge of having engaged in a conspiracy for the subversion of freedom, on the 26th of December Louis XVI. was brought before the Convention, and, after a trial which lasted twenty days, was declared guilty, and condemned to death by a majority of twenty-six votes out of seven hundred and twenty-one. Nearly all of those who had voted for his death subsequently perished on the scaffold, during the sanguinary "reign of Terror," which soon followed. On the 21st of January, 1793, Louis was led out to execution. He met death with magnanimity and firmness, amid the insults of his cruel executioners. His fate will be commiserated, and his murderers execrated, so long as justice or mercy shall prevail on the earth.

XV. TRIAL  
AND EXECU-  
TION OF  
LOUIS XVI.

1. *Jemappes* (zhem-map) is a small village of Belgium, near Mons, forty four miles south-west from Brussels. The Duke de Chartres, afterwards Louis Philippe king of the French, acted as the lieutenant of Dumouriez during the battle of Jemappes, and by his intrepidity at the head of a column aided essentially in winning the day.

a. The famous *Marseilles Hymn*, the national song of the French patriots and warriors, was composed by Joseph Rouget de l'Isle, (roozhâ de leel,) a young engineer officer, early in the French Revolution. It was at first called the "Offering to Liberty," but received its present name because it was first publicly sung by the Marseilles confederates in 1792. Both the words and the music are peculiarly inspiring. So great was the influence of this song over the exultant French, that it was suppressed under the empire and the Bourbons; but the Revolution of 1830 called it up anew, and it has since become again the national song of the French people.

24. The Girondists, who had been the first to fan the flame of revolution, were the first to suffer by its violence. Ardent republicans in principle, but humane and benevolent in their sentiments, they had not desired the death of the king, but they could not restrain the mad fury of the Jacobins. The latter, a base faction in the convention, taunted the former with having endeavored to save the tyrant: their partisans, throughout Paris, roused the feelings of the populace against the Girondists: a powerful insurrection<sup>a</sup> deprived the convention of its liberty: thirty of the leading members of the Girondist party were given up and imprisoned; and those who had not the fortune to escape from Paris were brought to trial, condemned, without being heard in their defence, and speedily executed,<sup>b</sup> and all for no other crime than having tried to prevent the execution of the king, to avenge the massacres of September, and to allay the desolating storm of violence and crime that was spreading terror and dismay over their country.

25. After the fall of the Girondists, the victorious Jacobins, at the head of whom were Danton, Marat, Robespierre, and their associates, obtained control of the "Committee of Public Safety," a formidable Revolutionary tribunal, in which was vested the whole power of the convention and of the government. Some opposition was indeed made, by the magistracies of the cities and towns throughout a great part of France, to this central power, and at one time seventy departments were in a state of insurrection against the convention; but the vigorous measures of the Parisian Revolutionists soon broke this formidable league. Revolutionary committees, radiating from the central Jacobin power in Paris, extended their network over the whole kingdom; and these committees, having the power of arresting the obnoxious and the suspected, and numbering more than five hundred thousand individuals, often drawn from the very dregs of society, held the fortunes and lives of every man in France at their disposal.

26. The prisons throughout France were speedily filled with victims; forced loans were exacted with rigor; TERROR was made the order of the day; and the guillotine\* was put in requisition to do its work of death. The queen was

XVII. THE  
REIGN OF  
TERROR.

\* Guillotine—so called from the name of the inventor—is an engine or machine for beheading persons at a stroke.

a. May 31st.

b. Oct. 31st.

brought to the scaffold,<sup>a</sup> and the dauphin, thrown into prison, ere long fell a victim to the barbarous neglect of his keepers. Irreligion and impiety raised the heads above the mass of pollution and crime: the Sabbath was abolished by law: the sepulchres of the kings of France were ordered to be destroyed, that every memorial of royalty might be blotted out; and the leaders of the municipality of Paris, in the madness of atheism, publicly expressed their determination "to dethrone the king of Heaven as well as the monarchs of the earth." As the crowning act of this drama of wickedness, the Goddess of Reason, personified by a beautiful female, was introduced into the convention, and declared to be the only divinity worthy of adoration:—the churches were closed—religion everywhere abandoned—and on all the public cemeteries was placed the inscription, "Death is an Eternal Sleep."

XVIII. TRI-  
UMPH OF  
INFIDELITY.

27. After the downfall of the Girondists and the party attached to a constitutional monarchy, divisions arose among the Jacobin leaders. The sanguinary Marat had already fallen by the dagger of the devoted heroine, Charlotte Corday, who voluntarily sacrificed her own life in the hope of saving her country. The more moderate portion of the Revolutionary leaders, Danton, Camille Desmoulins, and their supporters, who had so recently roused the populace against the Gironde, were ere long charged with showing too much *clemency*, and brought to the scaffold.<sup>b</sup> The Republican Girondists had sought to *prevent* the Reign of Terror—the Dantonists to *arrest* it; and both perished in the attempt. Thereafter there seemed not a hope left for France. The revolutionary excesses everywhere increased: those who kept aloof from them were suspected, and condemned; and the power of DEATH was relentlessly wielded by such a combination of monsters of wickedness as the world had never before seen.

XIX. FALL  
OF THE  
DANTONISTS.

28. Having pursued the internal history of the Revolution down to the fall of the Dantonists in March 1794, we resume the narrative of affairs at the beginning of 1793. The death of Louis XVI., which derives its chief importance from the principle which the revolutionists thereby proclaimed, excited profound terror in France, and feelings of astonishment and indignation throughout Europe. France thereby placed herself in avowed and unrelenting hostility to the established governments of the neighboring States; and it was universally felt that the period had

XX. WAR  
AGAINST  
EUROPE.

a. Oct. 16th, 1793.

b. March 5th, 1794.

now arrived when she must conquer the coalition of thrones, or perish under its blows. The convention did not wait to be attacked, but forthwith, on various pretexts, declared war against England, Spain, and Holland, and ordered the increase of the armies of the republic to more than five hundred thousand men.

29. Early in 1793 the English and Prussians combined to check the progress of the French in Holland, and on the 18th of March Dumouriez was defeated in the battle of Neerwinde. Soon after this repulse, the French general, disgusted with the excesses of the revolutionists in Paris, and finding himself suspected by both Girondists and Jacobins, entered into a negotiation with the allied generals for a coalition of forces to aid in the establishment of a constitutional monarchy in France; but his army did not share his feelings, and being denounced by the convention, and a price set upon his head, he was obliged to take refuge in the Austrian lines.

30. After the defection of Dumouriez, Custine was appointed to the command of the north, then severely pressed by the allies near Valenciennes; but being unable to check the progress of the enemy, he was deprived of his command, ordered to Paris, and, soon after, condemned and executed on the charge of misconduct. The revolutionary government, seeing no merit but in success, placed its generals in the alternative of victory or death, and employed the terrors of the guillotine as an incentive to patriotism. The fall of Valenciennes seemed to open to the allies a way to Paris, but, pursuing independent plans of aggrandizement, they injudiciously divided their forces, and before the close of the year, were driven back across the frontier.

31. Early in the same year Spain had despatched an army of fifty-five thousand men for the invasion of France by the way of the Pyrenees; but although the French, who advanced to meet them, were driven back, the campaign in that quarter was characterized by no event of importance. In the meantime, in the west of France, the insurrectionary war of La Vendee was occupying the troops of the convention; and on the side of Italy the allies were aided by the revolt of Marseilles, Lyons, and Toulon.

32. In La Vendee, a large district bordered on the north by the Loire, and on the west by the ocean, containing eight hundred thousand souls, the Royalists, embracing nearly the entire population, had early taken up arms in the cause of their church and their king. This district soon became the

theatre of innumerable conflicts, in which the undisciplined peasantry of La Vendee at first had the advantage, from their peculiar mode of fighting, and the nature of their country. On the 10th of June, 1793, they obtained a great victory at Saumur,<sup>1</sup> where their trophies amounted to eighty pieces of cannon, ten thousand muskets, and eleven thousand prisoners; but on the 29th of the same month they were defeated in their attempt on Nantes, where their brave leader Cathelineau was mortally wounded. During the summer two invasions of the country of the Vendeeans was made by large bodies of the republican troops under skilful generals, who were defeated and driven back with severe loss. The convention, at length aroused to a full sense of the danger of this war, surrounded La Vendee with an army of two hundred thousand men, who, by a simultaneous advance, threatened a speedy extinction of the revolt. But the republican troops who had penetrated the country were cut off in detail—the veterans of Kleber were defeated near Torfou,<sup>2</sup> and before the close of September the Vendean territory was freed from its invaders.

33. Again the convention made the most vigorous efforts to suppress the insurrection. Their forces penetrated the country in every direction, and, with unrelenting and uncalled-for cruelty, burned the towns and villages that fell into their hands, and put the inhabitants, of every age and sex, to the sword. Defeated<sup>a</sup> in the battle of Cholet,<sup>3</sup> and their country in the possession of their enemies, a large portion of the surviving Vendeeans, with their wives and children, crossed the Loire into Brittany, with the hope of obtaining assistance from their countrymen in that quarter. In the battle of Chateau Gonthier,<sup>4</sup> fighting with the courage of despair, they gained a decisive victory over the Republican forces, whose loss amounted to twelve thousand men and nineteen pieces of cannon. This victory was gained on the very day when the orator Barrere announced in the convention, "the war is ended, and La Vendee is no more." Great then was the consternation in Paris when it was known that the Republican army was dispersed, and that nothing remained to prevent the advance of the Royalists to the capital.

1. Saumur is on the southern bank of the Loire, in the former province of Anjou, one hundred and fifty-seven miles south-west from Paris. (Map No. XIII.)

2. Torfou was a small village in the northern part of La Vendee, a short distance east from Nantes. (Map No. XIII.)

3. Cholet (sho-lâ) is nearly forty miles south-east from Nantes. (Map No. XIII.)

4. Chateau Gonthier is sixty miles north-east from Nantes. (Map No. XIII.)

a. Oct. 17th, 1793.

34. But the Vendéans were divided in their councils. Induced by the hope of succors from England, they directed their march to the coast, and, after laying siege to Granville,<sup>1</sup> where they expected the cooperation of the English, were at length compelled to retreat, with heavy loss. Defeated<sup>a</sup> at Mans,<sup>2</sup> and having experienced a final overthrow<sup>b</sup> at Savenay,<sup>3</sup> they slowly melted away in the midst of their enemies, fighting with unyielding courage to the last. Out of nearly a hundred thousand who had crossed the Loire, scarcely three thousand returned to La Vendee, and most of these fell by the hands of their pursuers, or, brought to a hasty trial, perished on the scaffold.<sup>c</sup>

35. The discontents in the south of France against the measures of the convention first broke out in open insurrection at Marseilles, which was soon reduced to submission, while a large proportion of the inhabitants fled to Toulon. In the meantime Lyons had revolted. During four months it was in a state of vigorous siege; and sixty thousand men were employed before the place at the time of its surrender in October, 1793. All the houses of the wealthy were demolished, and nearly the entire city destroyed. In the course of five months after the surrender of the place, more than six thousand of the citizens suffered death by the hands of the executioners, and more than twelve thousand were driven into exile.

36. On the fall of Lyons the Republican troops immediately marched to the investment of Toulon, whose defence was assisted by an English and Spanish squadron. The artillery of the besiegers was commanded by a young Corsican, Napoleon Bonaparte, who remained faithful to France, in which he had been educated. By his

1. *Granville* is a fortified seaport town of France, on the western coast of Normandy, one hundred and eighty miles west from Paris. Granville was bombarded and burned by the English in 1695, and was partly destroyed by the Vendean troops in 1793. (Map No. XIII.)

2. *Mans* is situated on the left bank of the river Sarthe, a northern tributary of the Loire, one hundred and twenty miles south-west from Paris. (Map No. XIII.)

3. *Savenay* is a town on the northern bank of the Loire, twenty-two miles north-west from Nantes. Here the Vendéans fought with the courage of despair, and their guard, protecting a crowd of hapless fugitives—the aged, the wounded, women and children—continued to resist, with their swords and bayonets, long after all their ammunition had been expended, and until they all fell under the fire of the Republicans. (Map No. XIII.)

a. Dec. 10th, 1793.

b. Dec. 22d, 1793.

c. The most prominent of the Vendean leaders were Larochejacquelin, Bonchamps, Cahelineau, Lescure, D'Elbe, Stofflet, and Charette. Nearly all of these, and most of their families, perished in this sanguinary strife, or on the scaffold. Among those who were saved by the courageous hospitality of the peasantry were the wives of Larochejacquelin and Bonchamps, who, after escaping unparalleled dangers, lived to fascinate the world by the splendid story of their husbands' virtues and their own misfortunes.

exertions a fort commanding the harbor was taken, and the place being thus rendered untenable, was speedily evacuated<sup>a</sup> by the allies, who carried away with them more than fourteen thousand of the wretched inhabitants—being so many saved from the vengeance of the Revolutionary tribunals.

37. Thus terminated the memorable campaign of 1793. In the midst of internal dissensions and civil war, while France was drenched with the blood of her own citizens, and the world stood aghast at the atrocities of her "Reign of Terror," the national councils had shown uncommon military talent and unbounded energy. The invasion, on the north, had been defeated; the Prussians had been driven back from the Rhine; the Spaniards had recrossed the Pyrenees; the English had retired from Toulon; and the revolt of La Vendee had been extinguished; while an enthusiastic army, of more than a million of men, stood ready to enforce and defend the principles of the Revolution against all the crowned heads of Europe.

[1794.] 38. The fall of Danton and his associates, which occurred in the early part of 1794,<sup>b</sup> was followed by unqualified submission to the central power of Paris, from every part of France. For a time the work of proscription had been confined to the higher orders; but when it had descended to the middling classes, and when, even after all the enemies of the Revolution had been cut off, there seemed no limit to its onward course, humanity began to revolt at the ceaseless effusion of human blood, and courage arose out of despair.

39. In the convention itself, which, long stupefied by terror, had become the passive instrument of Robespierre and his associates, a conspiracy against the tyrant was at length formed among those whose destruction he had already planned,—not of the good against the bad, but a conspiracy of one set of assassins against another: his arrest was ordered: he was declared out of the pale of the law; and, after a brief struggle, he was condemned, with twenty of his associates, by the same Revolutionary Tribunal which he himself had established, and sent to the scaffold, where he perished amid the exulting shouts of the populace. On the following day sixty of the most obnoxious members of the municipality of Paris met the same fate. Thus terminated that Reign of Terror, which, under the cloak of Republican virtue, had not only overturned the throne and the altar and driven the nobles of France into exile, and her priests into exile

XXIII. FALL OF ROBESPIERRE, AND END OF THE REIGN OF TERROR.

a. Dec. 20th, 1793.

b. March 5th See D

tivity, but which had also shed the blood of more than a million of her best citizens.\*

40. The fall of Robespierre placed the direction of public affairs in the hands of more moderate men; but the genius of Carnot still controlled the military operations, which were conducted with remarkable energy and success. In consequence of the extinction of civil employments, and the forced requisition on the people, the whole talent of France was centered in the army, whose numbers, by the beginning of October, 1794, amounted to twelve hundred thousand men. After deducting the garrisons, the sick, and those destined for the service of the interior, there remained upwards of seven hundred thousand ready to act on the offensive;—a greater force than could then be raised by all the monarchies of Europe. The French territory resembled an immense military camp, and all the young men of the country seemed pressing to the frontier to join the armies.

41. England, at the head of the allies in the war against France, made preparations that were considered “unparalleled;” and it was soon easy to see that the latter was destined to become irresistible on land, and the former to acquire the dominion of the seas. In the early part of the season the French were dispossessed of all their West India possessions; the island of Corsica, in the Mediterranean, was captured; and on the 1st of June, a French fleet of twenty-six ships of the line was defeated, and six vessels taken by the English admiral Howe, off the western coast of France. But numerous victories on the land far more than compensated for these losses; and the campaign was one of the most glorious in the annals of France. At the beginning of the year the allies were pressing heavily on all the frontiers: at its close, the Spaniards, defeated in Biscay<sup>1</sup> and Catalonia, were suing for peace: the Italians, driven over the Alps, were trembling for the fate of their own country: the allied forces had everywhere recrossed the Rhine: Holland had been revolutionized

1. *Biscay* is a district of northern Spain, on the Bay of Biscay, and adjoining France. It comprises Biscay Proper, Alava, and Guipuzcoa,—the three Basque provinces. The Basques have a peculiar language, which is undoubtedly of great antiquity. Some have attempted to trace it, as a dialect of the Phœnician, to the Hebrew. It has some similarity to the Hungarian and Turkish. (*Map* No. XIII.)

\* The Republican writer, Prudhomme, gives a list of one million, twenty-two thousand three hundred and fifty-one persons, who suffered a violent death during this period, of whom more than eighteen thousand perished by the guillotine. In his enumeration are not included the massacres at Versailles—in the prisons, &c.—nor those shot at Toulon and Marseilles.

and subdued; and the English troops had returned home or had fled for refuge into the States of Hanover.

42. The failure of the allies in the campaigns of 1793 and 1794 was in great part owing to a want of cordial coöperation among them, occasioned by the prospect held out to Russia, Prussia, and Austria, of obtaining a further share in the partition of ill-fated Poland. While Poland was a prey to civil dissensions, it was invaded in 1792 by Russia, and early in the following year by Prussia; and the result was a second partition of the Polish territory among the invading powers, with the concurrence and sanction of Austria,—the king of Prussia assigning as reasons for his treachery and disregard of former treaties, that the “dangerous principles of French Jacobinism were fast gaining ground in that country.”

43. Scarcely had this iniquitous scheme been consummated, when the patriots of Poland, with Kosciusko at their head, arose against their invaders, whom they drove from the country. But Poland was too feeble to contend successfully against the fearful odds that were brought against her. Kosciusko was defeated, wounded, and taken prisoner by the Russians; and the result of the brief struggle was the third and last partition of Poland, among Russia, Prussia, and Austria. To effect this unhallowed object, Austria and Prussia had withdrawn a portion of their troops from the French frontiers, and thus the time was allowed to pass by, when a check might have been given to French ambition.

[1795.] 44. The first coalition against the French Republic, formed in March 1793, embraced England, Austria, Prussia, Holland, Spain, Portugal, the two Sicilies, the Roman States, Sardinia, and Piedmont; but the successes of France in the campaign of 1794 led to the dissolution of this confederacy early in 1795. The conquest of Holland decided the wavering policy of Prussia, which now, by a treaty of peace, agreed to live on friendly terms with the Republic, and not to furnish succor to its enemies; and before the first of August, Spain also, completely humbled, withdrew from the coalition; and thus the whole weight of the war fell on Austria and England. Russia had indeed already become a party to the war against France, but her alliance was as yet productive of no results, as the attention of the Empress Catherine was wholly engrossed in securing the immense territories which had fallen to her by the partition of Poland.

45. During the year 1795 the reaction against the Reign of Terror was general throughout France: the Jacobin clubs were broken up, the Parisian populace disarmed, and many of the prominent members of the Revolutionary tribunals justly expiated their crimes on the scaffold. As yet all the powers of government were centered in the National Convention; but the people now began to demand of it a constitution, and the surrender of the dictatorship which it had so long exercised. A constitution was formed, by which the legislative power was divided between two Councils, appointed by delegates chosen by the people, that of the *Five-Hundred*, and that of the *Ancients*, the former having the power of originating laws, and the latter that of passing or rejecting them. The executive power was lodged in the hands of a *Directory* of five members, nominated by the council of Five-Hundred, and approved by that of the Ancients.

46. This constitution was to be submitted to the armies of the people for ratification: but the convention, composed of the very men who had at first directed the Revolution, who had voted for the death of the king, and the execution of the Girondists, and who had finally overthrown the tyrant Robespierre, still unwilling abruptly to relinquish its power, decreed that two-thirds of their number should have a seat in the new legislative councils. This measure met with great opposition, and caused intense excitement. Although the armies, and a large majority of the people, accepted the constitution, a formidable insurrection against the convention broke out in Paris, headed by the Royalists, comprising many of the best citizens, and supported by the Parisian National Guard numbering thirty thousand men, but destitute of artillery. The convention, hastily collecting to its support a body of five thousand regular troops assembled in the neighborhood of Paris, placed them under the command of General Barras, who intrusted all his military arrangements to his second in command, the young artillery officer who had distinguished himself in the reduction of Toulon—Napoleon Bonaparte. The latter was indefatigable in making preparations for the defence of the convention, and when his little band was surrounded and attacked by the Parisians, he replied at once by a discharge of cannon loaded with grape shot, firing with as much spirit as though he were directing his guns upon Austrian battalions. In a few hours tranquillity was restored; and this was the *last insurrection* of the people in the French Revolution. The new gov-

XXVIII.  
NEW CON-  
STITUTION.

XXIX. INSUR-  
RECTION IN  
PARIS.

ernment being established, the convention, which had passed through so many stormy scenes, and had experienced so great changes in sentiment, determined to finish its career by a signal act of clemency, and after having abolished the punishment of death, and published a general amnesty, it declared its mission of consolidating the Republic accomplished, and its session closed. (Oct. 26th, 1795.)

47. The military events of 1795 were of much less importance than those of the two former years. England indeed maintained her supremacy at sea; but the Austrians barely sustained themselves in Italy; and success was evenly balanced on the side of Germany, while a general lassitude, and uncommon financial embarrassments, the result of the recent extraordinary revolutionary exertions, prevailed throughout France.

[1796.] 48. In the spring of 1796 the French Directory sent three armies into the field; that of the Sambre and Meuse,<sup>1</sup> under Jourdan, numbering seventy thousand men; that of the Rhine and Moselle, under Moreau, numbering seventy-five thousand; and the army of Italy under Bonaparte, numbering forty-two thousand. Jourdan and Moreau made successful irruptions into Germany, but they were stopped in their mid-career of victory by the Arch-duke Charles of Austria, one of the ablest generals of his time, and eventually compelled to retreat across the Rhine.

49. The operations of the army of Bonaparte in Italy were more eventful. Although opposed by greatly superior forces, the indefatigable energy and extraordinary military talents of the youthful general crowned the campaign with a series of brilliant victories, almost unparalleled in the annals of war. Napoleon, on assuming the command, found his army in an almost destitute condition, maintaining a doubtful contest on the mountain ridges of the Italian frontier. Rapidly forcing his way into the fertile plains of the interior, he soon compelled the king of Sardinia to purchase a dishonorable peace, subdued Piedmont, conquered Lombardy, humbled all the Italian States, and defeated, and almost destroyed, four powerful armies which Austria sent against him. The battles of Montenotte<sup>2</sup> and Millesimo,<sup>3</sup> the terrible pas-

XXX. INVA-  
SION OF  
GERMANY.

XXXI. THE  
ARMY OF  
ITALY.

1. *Sambre and Meuse.* The Sambre unites with the Meuse at Namur. (Map No. XV.)  
2. April 11-12, 1796. *Montenotte* is a mountain ridge near the Mediterranean, a short distance west from Genoa.  
3. April 13-14. *Millesimo* is a small village twenty-eight miles west from Genoa.

sage of the bridge of Lodi,<sup>1</sup> the victory of Arcole,<sup>2</sup> and fall of Mantua<sup>3</sup>—in fine, the brilliant results of the campaign, excited the utmost enthusiasm throughout France, and Napoleon at once became the favorite of the people. The councils of government repeatedly decreed that the army of Italy had deserved well of their country and the standard which Napoleon had borne on the bridge of Arcole was given to him to be preserved as a precious trophy in his family.

50. England had for some time been greatly agitated by a division of opinion respecting the policy of continuing the war against France; important parliamentary reforms were demanded;<sup>a</sup> party spirit became extremely violent; and on several occasions the country seemed on the brink of revolution.<sup>b</sup> Added to these internal difficulties, in the month of August, 1796, Spain concluded a treaty<sup>c</sup> of alliance, offensive and defensive, with France, and this was followed, in the month of October,<sup>d</sup> by a formal declaration of war against Great Britain. Still, England maintained her supremacy at sea, and greatly extended her conquests in the East and West Indies,<sup>e</sup> while a powerful expedition<sup>f</sup> which France had prepared for the invasion of Ireland was dispersed by tempests, and obliged to return without even effecting a landing.

1. May 10th. The bridge of *Lodi* crosses the *Adda*, twenty miles south-west from Milan. (Map No. XVII.)

2. Nov. 15-17. *Arcole* is a small village a short distance east of the *Adige*, thirteen miles south-west from *Verona*, and one hundred miles east from Milan. (Map No. XVII.)

3. *Mantua* is a fortified town of Austrian Italy, on both sides of the *Mincio*, twenty-one miles south-west from *Verona*. It derives its principal celebrity from its being the native country of *Virgil*. After the conquest of northern Italy by *Charlemagne*, *Mantua* became a republic, and continued under that form of government till the twelfth century, when the *Gonzaga* family acquired the chief direction of its affairs. They were subsequently raised to the title of dukes, and held possession of *Mantua* till 1707, when it was taken by the Austrians. *Mantua* surrendered to Napoleon, Feb. 2d, 1797, after a siege of nearly six months. In July, 1794, it surrendered to the Austrians, after a siege of nearly four months. (Map No. XVII.)

a. For increasing democratic power &c., for which purpose there were numerous associations throughout the kingdom, and the reformers were charged with a desire of subverting the monarchy, and establishing a republican constitution, similar to that of France.

b. Kings' carriage surrounded—pelted with stones, &c., Oct. 29th, 1795, and the monarch narrowly escaped the fury of the populace. A crisis in money matters compels the Bank of England to suspend cash payments, Feb. 1797. Discontents in the navy, and mutiny of the channel fleet, April, 1797. Second mutiny, May and June, and blockade of the Thames.

c. Of San Ildefonso.

d. Oct. 2d.

e. *St. Lucia*, *Essequibo*, and *Demarara*, in the West Indies, were reduced in May, 1796, and early in the same year *Ceylon*, the *Malaccas*, *Cochin*, *Trincomalee*, &c., in the East Indies. The *Cape of Good Hope* had been previously taken by the English.

f. The French fleet under *Hoche*, carrying twenty-five thousand land forces, sailed Dec. 15th, 1796. A formidable conspiracy existed in Ireland to throw off the English yoke and establish a republican government, and alliance with France.

[1797.] 51. Early in the spring of 1797, Napoleon, after stimulating the ardor of his soldiers by a spirited address,<sup>a</sup> in which he recounted to them the splendid victories which they had already won, set out from Northern Italy<sup>b</sup> at the head of sixty thousand men, in several divisions, to carry the war into the hereditary States of Austria. Opposed to him was the Arch-duke Charles at the head of superior forces, only a part of which, however, could be brought into the field at the beginning of the campaign. Rapidly passing over the mountains, Napoleon drove his enemies before him, and was ready to descend into the plains which spread out before the Austrian capital, when proposals of peace were made and accepted; and in less than a month after the first movement of the army from winter quarters, the preliminaries of a treaty between France and Austria were signed.<sup>c</sup> The final treaty was concluded at *Campo Formio*<sup>d</sup> on the 17th of October following. Spain and Holland suffered severely in this war: Austria was remunerated for the loss of *Mantua* by the cession of *Venice*; while France obtained a preponderating control over Italy, and her frontiers were extended to the *Rhine*. Thus terminated the brilliant Italian campaigns of Napoleon. Italy was the greatest sufferer in these contests. "Her territory was partitioned; her independence ruined, her galleries pillaged;—the trophies of art had followed the car of victory; and the works of immortal genius, which no wealth could purchase, had been torn from their native seats, and violently transplanted into a foreign soil."<sup>d</sup>

52. During these events of foreign war, the strife of parties was raging in France. In the elections of May, 1797, the *Royalists* prevailed by large majorities, and royalist principles were boldly advocated in the legislative councils,—so great a change had been pro-

XXXIII.  
NAPOLEON'S  
AUSTRIAN  
CAMPAIGN.

XXXIV.  
TREATY OF  
CAMPO  
FORMIO.

1. *Campo Formio* is a small town and castle of northern Italy, near the head of the *Adriatic*. The negotiations for this peace were carried on by the Austrians at *Udine*, a short distance north-east of *Campo Formio*, and by Bonaparte at the castle of *Passeriano*. The treaty was dated at *Campo Formio*, because this place lay between *Udine* and *Passeriano*, although the ambassadors had never held any conferences there. (Map No. XVII.)

a. "You have been victorious," said he, "in fourteen pitched battles and seventy combats; you have made one hundred thousand prisoners, taken five hundred pieces of field artillery, two thousand of heavy calibre, and four sets of pontoons. The contributions you have levied on the vanquished countries have clothed, fed, and paid the army; you have, besides, added thirty millions of francs to the public treasury, and you have enriched the museum of Paris with three hundred masterpieces of the works of art, the produce of thirty centuries."

b. March 10th.

c. April 9th, at *Judenberg*.

d. Alison.



duced in public opinion by the sanguinary excesses of the Revolution. But the vigilance of the Revolutionary party was again aroused, and the Directory, who were the Republican leaders, becoming alarmed for their own existence, but being assured of the support of the army, determined upon decisive measures. On the night of the 3d of September, twelve thousand troops, under the command of Augereau, and with the concurring support of Napoleon, were introduced into the capital; the Royalist leaders, and the obnoxious members of the two councils, were seized and imprisoned; and when the Parisians awoke from their sleep, they found the streets filled with troops, the walls covered with proclamations, and military despotism established.<sup>a</sup> The Directory now took upon themselves the supreme power, while their opponents were banished to the pestilential marshes of Guiana.<sup>1</sup>

53. The year 1798 opened with immense military preparations [1798] for the invasion of England, the only power then at war with France. Unusual activity prevailed, not only in the harbors of France and Holland, but also of Spain and Italy: all the naval resources of France were put in requisition, and an army of nearly one hundred and fifty thousand men was collected along the English Channel, under the name of the Army of England, the command of which was given to Napoleon. But the hazards of the expedition induced Napoleon to direct his ambitious views to another quarter, and, after considerable difficulty, he persuaded the Directory to give him the command of an expedition to Egypt, a province of the Turkish empire. The ultimate objects of Napoleon appear to have been, not only to conquer Egypt and Syria, but to strike at the Indian possessions of England by the overland route through Asia, and after a series of conquests that should render his name as terrible as that of Ghenghis Khan or Tamerlane, establish an Oriental empire that should vie with that of Alexander.

54. Filled with these visions of military glory, Napoleon sailed from Toulon on the 19th of May with a fleet of five hundred sail, carrying about forty thousand soldiers, and ten thousand seamen. He took with him artisans of all kinds; he formed a complete collection of philosophical and mathematical instruments; and about

1. *French Guiana.* See Surinam, p. 393.

a. Called the Revolution of the eighteenth Fructidor.

a hundred of the most illustrious scientific men of France, reposing implicit confidence in the youthful general, hastened to join the expedition, whose destination was still unknown to them.

55. The fleet first sailed to Malta,<sup>1</sup> which quickly surrendered its almost impregnable fortresses to the sovereignty of France,—the way having been previously prepared by a conspiracy fomented by the secret agents of Napoleon. Fortunate in avoiding the fleet of the English admiral Nelson, then cruising in the Mediterranean, the armament arrived before Alexandria on the first of July, and Napoleon, hastily landing a part of his forces, marched against the city, which he took by storm before the dismayed Turks had time to make preparations for defence.

56. With consummate policy Napoleon proclaimed to the Arab population<sup>b</sup> that he had come to protect their religion, restore their rights, and punish their usurpers, the Mamelukes; and thus he sought, by arming one part of the people against the other, to

1. *Malta.* (See also p. 152.) On the decline of the Roman empire Malta fell under the dominion of the Goths, and afterwards of the Saracens. It was subject to the crown of Sicily from 1190 to 1525, when the emperor Charles V. conferred it on the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, who had been expelled from Rhodes by the Turks. In 1565 it was unsuccessfully besieged by the Turks; the knights, under their heroic master Valette, founder of the city called by his name, finally compelling the enemy to retreat with great loss. In 1798 it fell into the hands of Napoleon; but the French garrisons surrendered to the English, Sept. 5th, 1800. The treaty of Paris, in 1814, annexed the island to Great Britain.

a. June 12th, 1798.

b. The population of Egypt at this time, consisting of the wrecks of several nations, was composed of three classes; Copts, Arabs, and Turks. The Copts, the ancient inhabitants of Egypt, a poor, despised, and brutalized race, amounted at most to two hundred thousand. The Arabs, subdivided into several classes, formed the great mass of the population: 1st, there were the Sheiks or chiefs, great landed proprietors, who were at the head of the priesthood, the magistracy, religion, and learning; 2d, there was a large class of smaller landholders; and, 3d, the great mass of the Arab population, who, as hired peasants, by the name of fellahs, in a condition little better than that of slaves, cultivated the soil for their masters; and 4th, the Bedouin tribes, or wandering Arabs, children of the desert, who would never attach themselves to the soil, but who wandered about, seeking pasturage for their numerous herds of cattle in the Oases, or fertile spots of the desert on both sides of the Nile. They could bring into the field twenty thousand horsemen, matchless in bravery, and in the skill with which their horses were managed, but destitute of discipline, and fit only to harass an enemy, not to fight him. The third race was that of the Turks, who were introduced at the time of the conquest of Egypt by the Sultans of Constantinople. They numbered about two hundred thousand, and were divided into Turks and Mamelukes. Most of the former were engaged in trades and handicrafts in the towns. The latter, who were Circassian slaves purchased from among the handsomest boys of the Circassians, and carried to Egypt when young, and there trained to the practice of arms, were, with their chiefs and owners, the beys, the real masters and tyrants of the country. The entire body consisted of about twelve thousand horsemen, and each Mameluke had two fellahs to wait upon him. "They are all splendidly armed: in their girdles are always to be seen a pair of pistols and a poniard; from the saddle are suspended another pair of pistols and a hatchet; on one side is a sabre, on the other a blunderbuss and the servant on foot carries a carbine."