

NOTE ON THE FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY  
KALENDAR.

IN reading the French historians of the period from the declaration of the Republic in 1792 to the end of 1805, we find the dates of events not given according to the common kalendar, but according to the most puzzling of all systems of chronology, the Republican Calendar adopted by the Convention. In our own history we give the dates, thus found in French writers, according to the Gregorian Kalendar; but it may be useful here to present a complete view of the Revolutionary Kalendar; which view we adopt, with some abridgment, from "The English Cyclopædia of Arts and Sciences."

The Convention decreed, on the 24th of November, 1793, that the common era should be abolished in all civil affairs: that the new French era should commence from the foundation of the republic, namely on the 22nd of September, 1792, on the day of the true autumnal equinox, when the sun entered Libra at 9h 30m 30s in the morning, according to the meridian of Paris; that each year should begin at the midnight of the day on which the true autumnal equinox falls; and that the first year of the French republic had begun on the midnight of the 22nd of September, and terminated on the midnight between the 21st and 22nd of September, 1793. To produce a correspondence between the seasons and the civil year, it was decreed, that the fourth year of the republic should be the first sextile, or leap year; that a sixth complementary day should be added to it, and that it should terminate the first Franciade; that the sextile or leap-year, which they called an olympic year, should take place every four years, and should mark the close of each Franciade: that the first, second, and third centennial years, namely 100, 200, and 300 of the republic should be common, and that the fourth centennial year, namely, 400, should be sextile; and that this should be the case every fourth century until the 40th, which should terminate with a common year. The year was divided into twelve months of thirty days each, with five additional days at the end, which were celebrated as festivals, and which obtained the name of "Sansculottides." Instead of the months being divided into weeks, they consisted of three parts, called Decades, of ten days each. It is however to be observed that the French republicans rarely adopted the decades in dating their letters, or in conversation, but used the number of the day of each month of their kalendar. The republican kalendar was first used on the 26th of November, 1793, and was discontinued on the 31st of December, 1805, when the Gregorian was resumed.

The decrees of the National Convention, which fixed the new mode of reckoning, were both vague and insufficient. A French work, "Concordance des Calendriers Républicain et Grégorien," par L. Rondonneau, puts every day of every year opposite to its day of the Gregorian kalendar. It is to actual usage that we must appeal to know what the decrees do not prescribe—namely, the position of the leap-years. The following list, made from the work above mentioned, must be used as a correction of the usual accounts, in which the position of the leap-years is not sufficiently regarded.

An I.	begins	Sept.	22, 1792	Sext. IX.	begins	Sept.	23, 1800
II.	"	"	22, 1793	X.	"	"	23, 1801
Sext. III.	"	"	22, 1794	Sext. XI.	"	"	23, 1802
IV.	"	"	23, 1795	An XII.	"	"	24, 1803
V.	"	"	22, 1796	XIII.	"	"	23, 1804
VI.	"	"	22, 1797	XIV.	"	"	23, 1805
Sext. VII.	"	"	22, 1798				
VIII.	"	"	23, 1799				ended 31 December, 1805.

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When the Gregorian year is not leap-year, the beginnings of the months are as follows, according as the republican year begins on September 22, 23, or 24:—

1 Vendémiaire	is	Sept.	22, 23, 24	1 Jan.	is	Niv.	12, 11, 10
1 Brumaire	is	Oct.	22, 23, 24	1 Feb.	is	Pluv.	13, 12, 11
1 Frimaire	is	Nov.	21, 22, 23	1 March	is	Vent.	11, 10, 9
1 Nivose	is	Dec.	21, 22, 23	1 April	is	Germ.	12, 11, 10
1 Pluviose	is	Jan.	20, 21, 22	1 May	is	Flor.	12, 11, 10
1 Ventose	is	Feb.	19, 20, 21	1 June	is	Prair.	13, 12, 11
1 Germinal	is	March	21, 22, 23	1 July	is	Messid.	13, 12, 11
1 Floréal	is	April	20, 21, 22	1 Aug.	is	Thermid.	14, 13, 12
1 Prairial	is	May	20, 21, 22	1 Sept.	is	Fructid.	15, 14, 13
1 Messidor	is	June	19, 20, 21	1 Oct.	is	Vendém.	10, 9, 8
1 Thermidor	is	July	19, 20, 21	1 Nov.	is	Brum.	11, 10, 9
1 Fructidor	is	Aug.	18, 19, 20	1 Dec.	is	Frim.	11, 10, 9

But when the Gregorian year is leap-year the beginnings of the months are as follows, according as the republican year begins on September 22, 23, or 24:—

1 Vendém.	is	Sept.	22, 23, 24	1 Jan.	is	Niv.	12, 11, 10
1 Brum.	is	Oct.	22, 23, 24	1 Feb.	is	Vent.	13, 12, 11
1 Frim.	is	Nov.	21, 22, 23	1 March	is	Pluv.	12, 11, 10
1 Niv.	is	Dec.	21, 22, 23	1 April	is	Germ.	13, 12, 11
1 Pluv.	is	Jan.	20, 21, 22	1 May	is	Flor.	13, 12, 11
1 Vent.	is	Feb.	19, 20, 21	1 June	is	Prair.	14, 13, 12
1 Germ.	is	March	20, 21, 22	1 July	is	Messid.	14, 13, 12
1 Flor.	is	April	19, 20, 21	1 Aug.	is	Thermid.	15, 14, 13
1 Prair.	is	May	19, 20, 21	1 Sept.	is	Fructid.	16, 15, 14
1 Messid.	is	June	18, 19, 20	1 Oct.	is	Vendém.	11, 10, 9
1 Thermid.	is	July	18, 19, 20	1 Nov.	is	Brum.	12, 11, 10
1 Fructid.	is	Aug.	17, 18, 19	1 Dec.	is	Frim.	12, 11, 10

For instance, what is 14 Floréal, An XII.? The republican year begins Sept. 24, 1803, so Floréal falls in 1804, which is Gregorian leap-year. Look at the third table, and when the year begins Sept. 24, the 1st of Floréal is April 21; consequently the 14th is May 4, 1804. Again, what is June 17, 1800, in the French kalendar? The year is not Gregorian leap-year; and An VIII. contains it, which begins Sept. 23. Look in the second table, and in such a year it appears that June 1 is the 12th of Prairial; therefore June 17 is Prairial 28.



- 1775 May 20: The American provinces sign articles of union and alliance.  
 1776 July 4: American declaration of independence.  
 1778 February 6: A treaty ratified with the states of America, by France, who acknowledged their independence.  
 1778 March 13: War between England and France.  
 1779 May 13: *Peace of Teschen* ratified between Austria, Saxony, and Prussia.  
 1779 July 13: Spain joins the war against England.  
 1780 December 20: War declared by Great Britain against Holland.  
 1780 July 9 and August 1: First conventions for the armed neutrality, between Russia, Denmark, and Sweden. December 24, the States-General acceded.  
 1781 May 8: King of Prussia accedes to the armed neutrality.  
 1781 October 9: The Emperor of Germany joins the armed neutrality.  
 1782 November 30: The independence of America acknowledged by England, and preliminaries of peace signed at Paris between the British and American Commissioners.  
 1783 January 20: Preliminary articles of peace signed at Versailles, between Great Britain, Spain, and France.  
 1783 January 20: Crimea passes under the dominion of Russia.  
 1783 September 2: Preliminaries of peace between Great Britain and Holland, signed at Paris.  
 1783 September 3: *Definitive treaty of peace* between Great Britain and America, signed at Paris; when the latter power was admitted to be a sovereign and independent State. On the same day, the definitive treaty was signed at Versailles between Great Britain, France, and Spain.  
 1784 June 20: *Definitive treaty of peace* between Great Britain and Holland, signed at Paris.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF STATE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION OF LORD NORTH, 1770,  
 TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE EARL OF SHELBURNE, 1783.—(See page 139.)

LORD CHANCELLOR.	FIRST LORD OF THE TREASURY.	CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.	PRINCIPAL SECRETARIES OF STATE.
1771. Henry, lord Apsley (created earl Bathurst in 1775).	1770. Frederick, lord North.	1770. Frederick, lord North.	1768. Earl of Rochford.
1772. " "	1771. " "	1771. " "	— Earl of Hillsborough (Colonies).
1773. " "	1772. " "	1772. " "	1771. (June 12). Earl of Suffolk ( <i>vice</i> earl of Sandwich).
1774. " "	1773. " "	1773. " "	1772. (Aug. 14). Earl of Dartmouth (Colonies). " "
1775. " "	1775. " "	1775. " "	1773. " "
1776. " "	1776. " "	1776. " "	1775. (Nov. 10). Viscount Weymouth ( <i>vice</i> earl of Rochford).
1777. " "	1777. " "	1777. " "	— Lord George Sackville Germaine ( <i>vice</i> lord Dartmouth) (Colonies), " "
1778. (June 2), Edward, lord Thurlow. " "	1778. " "	1778. " "	1776. " "
1779. " "	1779. " "	1779. " "	1777. " "
1780. " "	1780. " "	1780. " "	1779. (Oct. 27). Viscount Stormont ( <i>vice</i> earl of Suffolk).
1781. " "	1781. " "	1781. " "	— (Nov. 24). Earl of Hillsborough ( <i>vice</i> viscount Weymouth).
1782. " "	1782. " "	1782. " "	1780. " "
— " "	— " "	— " "	1781. " "
	(March 27). Charles, marquis of Rockingham. (July 13), William, earl of Shelburne.	— Lord John Cavendish (July 13), Hon. William Pitt.	1782. (Feb. 24). Welbore Ellis, esq. ( <i>vice</i> lord George Germaine) (Colonies). " "
			— (March 27). William, earl of Shelburne ( <i>vice</i> lord Stormont).
			— Hon. Charles James Fox ( <i>vice</i> lord Hillsborough). (July 13). Thomas Townshend, esq. ( <i>vice</i> Mr. Fox). Thomas, lord Grantham ( <i>vice</i> earl of Shelburne).

GROWTH OF THE NATIONAL DEBT.

THE present Funded Debt may be considered to have its root in the iniquitous measure of shutting up the Exchequer in 1672, when the revenue pledged for the payment of loans, amounting to £1,328,000, was appropriated to other purposes, and that principal sum was never redeemed. Interest was duly paid till 1684, and was then withheld. But an Act of Parliament was passed in 1699, by which, after 1705, the creditors were to receive interest at 3 per cent. upon the original amount, to be redeemed whenever the Government should pay a moiety thereof. That unredeemed moiety of £660,263 is a part of the present debt; and at the Revolution there was about £400,000 outstanding debt in the shape of loans and arrears.

A General Abstract of the Funded and Unfunded Capital of the National Debt of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the charge for Interest and Management, has been recently printed by order of the House of Commons. It must be borne in mind, that although we speak of Capital and Interest, the Public Debt consists not in Capital but in Annuities—that the State, having borrowed a principal sum from time to time, guarantees certain payments in the shape of perpetual or terminable annuities, without any engagement to replace the principal represented by such a General Abstract of the National Debt. We give the results of this abstract, separating the Return into periods concurrent with marked eras of history; and distinguishing the years of war and the years of peace. In the progress of our historical narrative, we have noticed how the amount of Interest has been reduced, by the judicious measures of sir Robert Walpole, and by those of Mr. Pelham in 1749.

WILLIAM AND MARY; WILLIAM III.; ANNE.

			Unredeemed Capital.	Interest and Annuities.	
			£	£	
War.....	W. & M.	3 & 4	1691	3,130,000	232,000
".....		4 & 5	1692	2,310,547	230,000
".....		5 & 6	1693	5,902,839	507,101
".....	William III.	6 & 7	1694	6,734,297	818,298
".....		7 & 8	1695	8,136,846	887,192
".....		8 & 9	1696	11,579,178	1,086,971
War.....	William III.	9 & 10	1697	14,522,925	1,322,519
Peace.....		10 & 11	1698	15,445,416	1,468,511
".....		11 & 12	1699	13,799,355	1,423,539
".....	William III.	12 & 13	1700	12,607,080	1,252,147
".....		13	1701	12,552,486	1,219,080
Peace.....	Anne.	1	1702	12,767,225	1,215,324
War.....		1 & 2	1703	12,325,779	1,158,460
".....		2 & 3	1704	12,163,474	1,234,010
".....	Anne.	3 & 4	1705	12,135,351	1,210,051
".....		4 & 5	1706	12,388,039	1,443,568
".....		5 & 6	1707	15,244,299	1,509,630
".....	Anne.	6 & 7	1708	15,518,406	1,722,472
".....		7 & 8	1709	18,933,339	1,921,477
".....		8 & 9	1710	21,335,645	2,064,829
".....	Anne.	9 & 10	1711	22,398,425	2,274,377
".....		10 & 11	1712	34,722,688	3,034,078
War.....		11 & 12	1713	34,699,847	3,004,287
Peace.....	Anne.	12 & 13	1714	36,175,460	3,063,133

GEORGE I. AND II.—From the Peace of Utrecht to the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle.

			Unredeemed Capital.	Interest and Annuities.	
			£	£	
Peace.....	George I.	1 & 2	1715	37,423,234	3,114,625
".....		2 & 3	1716	37,918,468	3,167,616
Peace.....		3 & 4	1717	40,308,257	3,144,293
War.....		4 & 5	1718	49,379,684	2,965,889
".....		5 & 6	1719	41,872,241	2,822,370
War.....		6 & 7	1720	53,979,708	2,846,434
Peace.....		7 & 8	1721	54,405,108	2,855,380
".....		8 & 9	1722	54,202,366	2,807,584
".....		9 & 10	1723	52,996,990	2,728,080
".....		10 & 11	1724	53,323,570	2,727,317
".....		11 & 12	1725	52,239,077	2,717,589
".....		12 & 13	1726	52,850,797	2,739,628
".....		13	1727	52,523,923	2,360,934
".....	1 & 2	1728	51,960,576	2,306,462	
".....	2 & 3	1729	51,544,220	2,292,150	
".....	3 & 4	1730	50,830,310	2,227,127	
".....	4 & 5	1731	50,738,786	2,219,986	
".....	5 & 6	1732	49,836,638	2,180,391	
".....	6 & 7	1733	48,728,097	2,153,405	
".....	7 & 8	1734	48,821,416	2,136,147	
".....	8 & 9	1735	48,948,089	2,141,600	
".....	9 & 10	1736	50,424,651	2,108,793	
".....	10 & 11	1737	47,231,299	2,057,073	
Peace.....	11 & 12	1738	49,497,500	2,025,898	
War.....	George II.	12 & 13	1739	46,613,883	2,030,884
".....		13 & 14	1740	47,122,579	2,051,572
".....		14 & 15	1741	48,382,439	2,099,950
".....		15 & 16	1742	51,847,323	2,157,136
".....		16 & 17	1743	53,200,989	2,181,586
".....		17 & 18	1744	56,742,418	2,293,302
".....		18 & 19	1745	59,717,817	2,428,329
".....		19 & 20	1746	64,617,844	2,650,231
War.....		20 & 21	1747	69,115,444	2,882,538
Peace.....		21 & 22	1748	75,812,132	3,165,765

GEORGE II. AND III.—From the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle to the Peace of Paris.

			Unredeemed Capital.	Interest and Annuities.	
			£	£	
Peace.....	George II.	22 & 23	1749	77,188,940	3,204,858
".....		23 & 24	1750	76,853,810	2,789,351
".....		24 & 25	1751	77,177,026	2,769,184
".....		25 & 26	1752	76,431,683	2,735,312
".....		26 & 27	1753	75,034,815	2,694,038
".....		27 & 28	1754	72,128,282	2,648,452
Peace.....		28 & 29	1755	72,505,572	2,650,041
War.....		29 & 30	1756	74,575,025	2,753,566
".....		30 & 31	1757	77,825,397	2,736,254
".....		31 & 32	1758	83,123,009	2,918,707
".....		32 & 33	1759	91,273,459	3,181,895
".....		33 & 34	1760	102,014,018	3,576,275
".....		1	1761	114,294,087	4,148,999
War.....		2 & 3	1762	126,794,937	4,747,849
Peace.....	3 & 4	1763	132,716,049	5,032,733	

GEORGE III.—From the Peace of Paris to the War of the French Revolution.

			Unredeemed Capital.	Interest and Annuities.	
Peace .....	4 & 5	1764	£ 133,287,940	£ 5,002,865	
" .....	5 & 6	1765	131,816,173	4,028,250	
" .....	6 & 7	1766	131,636,931	4,887,346	
" .....	7 & 8	1767	132,110,822	4,875,558	
" .....	8 & 9	1768	132,587,404	4,870,163	
" .....	9 & 10	1769	130,313,280	4,786,941	
" .....	10 & 11	1770	129,197,633	4,712,079	
" .....	11 & 12	1771	128,986,012	4,733,694	
" .....	12 & 13	1772	128,036,533	4,706,326	
" .....	13 & 14	1773	128,874,497	4,749,567	
Peace .....	George III.	14 & 15	127,162,413	4,698,313	
War .....		15 & 16	126,842,811	4,703,519	
" .....		16 & 17	127,237,283	4,870,534	
" .....		17 & 18	130,776,037	5,112,344	
" .....		18 & 19	143,052,934	5,487,323	
" .....		19 & 20	153,574,350	6,100,060	
" .....		20 & 21	167,460,982	6,931,739	
" .....		21 & 22	189,258,681	7,451,052	
" .....		22 & 23	1782	214,729,586	8,413,441
War .....		23 & 24	1783	231,843,631	9,065,585
Peace .....	24 & 25	1784	243,063,145	9,541,256	
" .....	25 & 26	1785	245,586,470	9,678,942	
" .....	26 & 27	1786	245,466,855	9,664,541	
" .....	27 & 28	1787	244,279,225	9,595,379	
" .....	28 & 29	1788	243,637,416	9,572,217	
" .....	29 & 30	1789	242,752,911	9,567,359	
" .....	30 & 31	1790	242,461,580	9,585,712	
" .....	31 & 32	1791	241,675,999	9,513,597	
" .....	32 & 33	1792	239,663,421	9,432,179	

## ABSTRACT.

Period.	Debt.	Interest.	Years of War.	Increase of Debt in Years of War.
	£	£		£
1691	3,130,000	332,000		
1701	12,552,486	1,219,147	1691—1697	11,392,925
1714	36,175,460	3,063,135	1702—1713	21,932,622
1748	75,812,132	3,165,765	1718—1721	14,025,324
1763	132,716,049	5,032,733	1740—1745	22,531,551
1792	239,663,421	9,432,179	1756—1763	58,141,024
			1774—1783	104,681,213
				£232,704,759

