

trecht is besieged. On the Dutch frontier they have taken Craevcoeur, Bois le Duc &c &c and are actually penetrating into Holland where terror & confusion reign. They are sending their valuables to this country insurances has been done on property in Amsterdam for a month at 15 percent premium, & some people think that the French will be in possession of it before that time. Our troops under the Duke of York have been constantly retreating & with considerable loss. We heard yesterday the unpleasant news of his having been forced to retreat to Arnheim over the Rhine, but not before the loss of the greater part of the regiment of Bohn, & what is more immediately afflicting the 37 reg^t of foot has been almost all killed or taken in this affair, not more than fifty men & the major having escaped. In the interior of France, from which I have always thought they had most to fear, order & tranquillity seem to gain ground, owing to the firm, & I am happy to add, for the sake of humanity, moderate measures of the convention. I forgot to add that on the side of Italy the Republican troops have in several instances been successful, & on that of Spain taken the strong fortress of Bellegard with five thousand troops & an immense quantity artillery & stores: thus they are in possession of the two keys of that kingdom.

The poles, not satisfied with the new government of the two worthies who have done so much for their happiness, have risen, as if impelled by one soul, & have every where been successful. The king of Prussia was defeated by the brave Coscioski before Warsaw, & instead of subduing it was very glad to reach his own dominions, without waiting for his artillery & baggage, a considerable part of which he has *left* in the *care* of the poles who are, it is said going to use it against some part of his own dominions. Nor has his partner & associate in villany Catherine been much more successful. The fact is they begin now to fear, particularly Austria & Prussia that those new principles as they are called (the love of liberty by the by is old as man) are getting out in some parts of their own dominions.

I beg to be kindly remembered to M^{rs} Askin and all the