

We need not to recommend, Mr Editor, to the reflexions and feelings of your readers the subject of this letter, being confident that more than one will shed tears upon this lamentable picture of human distress. [We are bound only to add that we have authority to advance, and proofs to establish the preceding facts, as well as this concluding observation:] We ^{claim} ~~anticipate~~ their reflexions only on this concluding observation: ^{Share,} ~~this concluding observation:~~ ~~any complexity~~

All Germany disclaims with detestation any complexity in the unheard-of persecution of La Fayette: — all affirm that the Emperor is utterly ignorant of it, and that his heart, (the heart of a young man) would shudder at the display of such base cruelty: — Mr de Staramburg, the Austrian ambassador in England, declared to the American Envoy that Mr. La Fayette was not at all ill used since he was ~~at~~ ⁱⁿ his recess at Olmutz (Mr La Fayette n'est point mal traité depuis qu'il est dans la retraite à Olmutz.) — At length, when Mrs La Fayette flew, as was so feelingly expressed by Mr Fox, on the wings of affection and duty to Vienna, to solicit the Emperor for permission, at least to give to her husband the consolation of her attention, in his prison, the young Prince answered with tears in his eyes: — I pity you, the liberation of your husband does not depend on me alone; that matter is ^{very} ~~much~~ complicated, my hands are bound. (Je vous plains, la liberté de votre Epoux ne dépend pas de moi seul; cette affaire est bien compliquée; j'ai les mains liées.) ^{which then} ~~murder~~ Englishmen, what is that invisible hand, murdering ~~in the dark~~ defenceless innocence in the dark?

26 mai 1796

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Mr Editor

West
General La Fayette.

The Circumstance of our having been personally attached to the general La Fayette by the duties of our Station in his army; and more particularly by the consideration of his private and public virtues, interested our liveliest feelings and gratitude in that pathetic description lately made by Mr Fox of Innocence tortured ^{by Despotism} ~~by Despotism~~ with the most relentless and savage brutality, all the friends of humanity and liberty will sympathise in the eloquent grief of the great Statesman, and in that burst of indignation and sorrow which broke from every part of the house of Commons. but all the colours and powers of Eloquence can never do justice to the unparalleled sufferings of the unfortunate La Fayette, so justly entitled to the praise of being a man of the most uncorrupted nature. [Let those intoxicated beings rioting in the sunshine of favour, in the luxuries of opulence; let those (Statesmen and Senators) so profuse in their professions, so forward in their support of Religion, Justice, order, humanity;] let the tender and compassionate hearts of the British Fair, and the boasted generosity of Englishmen

Englishmen, [^{and account accustomed} pause a moment and] reflect upon the fate of a man born ~~free and used~~ to the enjoyments and comforts of life, of social and rational intercourse; engaged from his early years in the most liberal pursuits; whose heart never beat but for the improvement, ^{the} happiness and liberty of his Country, and of the great family of ^{a man} mankind; of the most tender and generous disposition as a husband, as a father, as a friend; let them contemplate that gallant and distinguished Character, seized upon neutral ground, and, from the month of August 1792, buried alive in cold, subterraneous, solitary dungeons; deprived of exercise, of air, of the light of heaven, of all intercourse with human beings; stripped of all his clothes, before his being plunged in his last dungeon at Olmutz, and clad like a galley-slave in trousers and waist-coat of sail cloth, enduring in that condition the memorable winter of 1793, destitute of every thing, refused even a fork, and the scanty comforts allowed to felons, ^{obliged to lie on the} even straw to lie on, were it not supplied by a miserable mattress, the felicity of his Prussian prison.

Such is the treatment, Mr Editor, which, for four years past, La Fayette, La Tour-Maubourg, and Bureau-Desly have experienced from these very governments professing to support against Barbarians regular and religious establishments. ^{your readers will} ~~it seems~~ no doubt ^{think} impossible

to ~~your readers~~ to have aggravated such sufferings; to have sported more outrageously with all the laws of Justice all the laws of nations, the pangs of innocence, the groanings of humanity, the unmixed detestation of mankind. But La Fayette was doomed to be wounded in the most sensible fibres of his heart; to see his wife with his two daughters sharing in all the horrors of a captivity unparalleled even under the tyranny of her former jailer Robespierre. She ^{was forced} ~~was~~ ^{as the price} ~~to~~ submitted to such price and condition of her attendance upon her husband: Vainly did she apply "not for a female servant, instead of a male, as they were never allowed to have any one; but for a female attendant upon her two daughters, as they are shut up every night in a separate dungeon by a soldier, under his immediate keeping and discretionary inspection: She was refused by the governor of Olmutz-Bastille. — Vainly ^{did} she entreated for leave to attend divine service, and to seek for those consolations of Religion so consonant with her religious principles, and so necessary in her present situation. — at last M^{me} La Fayette, more alarmed at the decline of her husband sinking under such pressure of miseries, than at the rapid decay of her own health, begged again to be allowed to go and consult the Physicians of Vienna: did they grant ~~at least~~ such ^{request} ~~request~~ ^{to go to Vienna, and suffered} ~~she was refused~~ ^{no}, "but on condition of her never visiting her ^{dungeon} ~~dungeon~~, her husband again: — She chose to die with her husband."