

Madrid June 20th 1843.



My dear Papa

I received some time since your short and rather hurried letter just before your journey to ~~Paris~~ the last accounts speak of you at home again and moving frequently between Paris and the city: I hope you will have time in the intervals of your visits, to keep me ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the fact of your proceedings in all of which I most heartily wish your success: about these days you ought to receive a letter from me of the 24th of May with which I forwarded to Miller, and order for £43- in his answer he informs me that according to your instructions he has deposited the order, ~~in order~~ ^{to the end} that it may be drawn against by you:

The condition of this country becomes every day more critical, and the uncertainty of the future is so great that no one can pronounce with safety who may be at the head of affairs by the end of the summer: my opportunities as a looker on would have enabled me to have written to the ~~Intelligence~~ ^{Intelligence} as you suggested, but that I felt disposed to be perhaps unnecessarily, cautious and moreover the circumstance for your case only had the papers and sketches ~~would~~ ^{would} have been in the last two months

from the same pen, must have been too apparent at the Depart.
of State: Since the 23^d May when the movement first broke
out at Malaga the insurrection has gained ground, up to the
present moment, and now extends over a large part of the country
and almost all the principal points on the Mediterranean Coast.
Before the Decree dissolving the Cortes was published the opposition
were leading for the provinces in all directions to place themselves at
the head of the movement: Two days after the first rising in Malaga,
by one of those sudden turns to which these revolts are so apt to be liable
than in France a certain Marquis Domézieu Marshal of a Regiment succeeded
in restoring order and the authority of the Govt. he instantly despatched a
Courier to convey the intelligence to Madrid. At the same time the leader
of the rebellion, Captain Genl. of the province, took refuge in the house of the
French Consul and hired a boat to convey him at night on board the steamer
for Gibraltar: Domézieu's courier however met at Otívar, a picturesque
village in one of the wild passes of the mountains, a Courier from Grenada
with the intelligence that the Capital had also declared and overthrown the
authority of Govt. as soon as this news was rec^d at Malaga, the troops
& national militia declared for the King, and Domézieu changed places
with the Captain General at the Consul's house and also assumed his
bargain for the boat: there has been some little confusion, but no blood
at this point: one curious affair took place, a revolutionary column
of 600 men & 2 pieces of artillery left Malaga to march to Ronda and
other places and extend the insurrection, 200 of the men were troops of the
line, who taking to sea with the Commodore's command of an old convent
which commanded the road threatened to fire as the militia of their advanced;
then they retired to Malaga, and the soldiers joined the other corps who were
faithful to the Government.

Wednesday Morny June 21st I was interrupted at this point to dress for dinner at
the English Embassy to meet your friend Capt. Wright. I will now go on with the
Insurrection: In Catalonia Col. Prim Secretary of the Cortes succeeded in causing
a revolt in the town of Reus, where he was joined by the peasantry of the neighbour-
hood until his force was said to amount to 3000 men: after several days delay
the town was attacked by Torblanca and capitulated after a cannonade of 5 or 6
hours; Prim escaping with his followers to the mountains: In Valencia the
people rose, and murdered the political Chief: the Military Commandant
with 2000 men joining the insurgents: In Barcelona after some correspondence
with the revolutionary junta, the Captain General, Cortinez, abandoned his duty
and carried over with him a large force: this is the most dangerous blow of
all, especially if (which is yet uncertain) the fortress of Montjuich has also
fallen: the plan was and it was known here, before it was to have been carried
into effect, to release the officer in command in the regular way, by an order
from his General, and substitute in his place one of those who adhered to the
movement - on what little matter do these points turn! on the morning of the 13th
a little after day break the column marched up the hill to relieve the garriso-
n, but instead of a quiet soldier like air, they were so confident of their triumph
that they went up shouting in a disorderly manner and followed by a large crowd:
the Commander of the Fort refused to admit them and threatened to use his guns
if necessary against them: we have since ^{been} a correspondence between this officer
& Genl. Cortinez & the interesting question now is, in whose hands Montjuich
is at present: - among other stories it is said \$100,000 have been offered him and that
he had delivered the Fort to the revolt on the 16th - I have no doubt money
has been freely used in that quarter to bring over the principal officers - The
Regent with one or two regiments, the Garrison of Madrid, leaves the city this
afternoon at 5 P.M. previous to this departure he passed in review the
National Guard; and at 12. receives the Diplomatic Body: - I must shut
on my regimental ^{to be} in readiness to make my bow. -
2 o'clock - I have just returned from Buena Vista: the Regent made a speech
to the Foreign Gentlemen, ^{the} which he began from memory, but as we dropped

in by detachments he went over again the same topics, enlarging a little upon them - he was especially explicit on the point of National Independence; his desire to respect the rights of other nations, and his hope that other powers would in turn not interfere with those of Spain: this seemed particularly addressed to the Representatives of the lively Nation on the other side of the Pyrenees, who are strongly suspected of stirring up the little difficulties which break out here from time to time - The report says that the Duchess of the ~~Castile~~ will accompany her husband to the Army - She's a very pretty winning woman, and suffers of course exceedingly in these stormy days: on his former expedition to Barcelona she remained here; - the anxiety and expectation may have ~~been~~ ^{made} her very unhappy to notice her to go through all the discomforts and disorders of military operations, in this hot weather.

We have no letters or papers today, which ~~lead~~ ^{lead} us to believe that some town has declared on the road to Bayonne, and intercepted the Mail - Our young friend Hector must have been in the very centre of the warlike operations unless he altered his route, which was through Barcelona and along the coast to France.

 Genl. Scorne, and Urbano have joined their forces and are marching with 28. battalions on Barcelona: Montjuich still holds out, and tho the commander is told that all Spain has declared against the Regent, he nobly refuses to yield his post in the midst of the confusion, until he receives orders direct from the authorities at Madrid: on this point the whole affair must turn - Barcelona must yield or be destroyed by those who are masters of the Fortress - at 4. I go with Mr. Irving to the review in the Prado, where Espartero will probably make an address to the National Militia, to whom he ^{has to} ~~must~~ confide the safety of the Capital, and the person of the Queen, all the regular troops being on their way to the scene of action - Embassy Couriers are flying about and rumors run from mouth to mouth without any one presuming to say what will happen next - Blood has