

*A Brief Account of the Subversion of the Papal Government. 1798.*

**Richard Duppa**

[Translation-Italian, excepting IV, V, VII, VIII in French]

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**No. II.**

SACRED INVITATION AND NOTIFICATION

*GIULIO MARIA of the Office [pastor] of S. Sabina of the S. R. C. Priest Cardinal of Somalia of the Holiness of N.S. Vicario General, etc.*

Romans, wise and religious Romans attached to blessed God so faithfully, and to Your Sovereign who is the visible Head of the Catholic Church which is heard. In the horrendous calamity which in no short time distressed us, now through singular misadventure and through infernal malice now seems [to be] so fiercely aggravated. You have received from the common Father of the Faithful, reigning Highest pontiff, a loving invitation to raise the voices to the Sky to obtain a reprieve from so great evils, and You have docilely obeyed it, rushing in a crowd to the Church, where a devout Triduum was celebrated. Therefore, Your Holiness has proposed for you the great means of the Divine Word, so very efficacious for the conversion of the heart, whereupon more honored they would have jumped Your entreating to the Throne of God, and You devoutly needful of the Food of eternal life have inundated twelve grand Churches of Rome with an enduring fullness, and without ever getting tired, hung attentive and modest to the mouth of the Holy Orators, always full of doctrine and of zeal to apprehend better Your duties, and to get excited by the horror of the sin, and by the love of the Christian virtue, frail just as there is no attraction, that many already practiced the two more secret and faithful companions of the orations, the alms and the fast. You Romans have done much done with Divine help, still more also remains for you, because there would be increased the compunction of the heart, the constancy in the intentions, the fervor in the prayers, whereupon the Highest God would become a loving

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force. And behold the Holy Father, who invites You, his beloved sons, to a great eternal act of Religion, in which to say it would be possible that all the People lovingly prostrate contrite in front of the Throne of the Highest to implore protection and piety. It will be Your faith, animated by the view of the Sacrosanct objects of Religion which, transported by the Clergy with devoted pomp through the public ways, are brought to the Basilica of S. Peter on a day exactly which precedes the Solemnity of the Roman Catedra, and on the grand Altar, exposed to public veneration for several days, they will direct our heart by greater confidence, and the heart of God by the fullness of his compassion. Our Divine Savior JESU' CHRIST is the only propitiator for the sins of all the World; The MOST

HOLY VIRGIN MARY is our dear Mother, and as Mother of GOD is the most powerful Intermediary of any grace, in comparison to the SACROSANCT INDIVIDUAL TRINITY; The Leader of the Apostles S. PETER is the Father, the support, the glory of Christian Rome: These are the Subjects concerning the august Monuments that are brought around in a most solemn Procession. The venerable rite has its origin back to the ancient Alliance. Read the book 2 and 3 of Kings, and you will find it practiced by David and by Solomon; run through the book of Esdra, and you will see it sought after fervidly by all the People, in thanks to God for the dissolved slavery of Babylonia; Recall finally the famous command made to Joshua by the same God to conduct the Ark with religious apparatus for seven days around the wall of Jericho. But in the new Alliance, thus prolific of pious habits, who is able to number the devout processions in any of the Catholic Churches, and especially in the Roman Mother and Chief of all the others? They are to be repeated several times a year, and always are performed in the usual times of calamity, and in the serious needs

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of the Church and of the State. Now what circumstances have ever been more grievous and urgent than ours? And whenever would there be a stronger reason than at the present time to follow in the devout footsteps of all Our Elders? We embrace it, therefore, with humility and with courage, and we do not doubt.

The chosen day of the HOLINESS OF OUR LORD is Wednesday, January the 17<sup>th</sup>, The Vigil of THE CATHEDRA OF S. PETER, and will be a day of fasting, as in the Vigils of Precept, for all the Secular Clergy and for all the Religious Persons of one and of the other Gender, when they are not legitimately prevented. For the Seculars, however, it is not prescribed, but it is recommended as an opportune means of Penitence.

The Morning after the same Wednesday, about the 16<sup>th</sup> hour, there will be the solemn Procession from the Church of S. Maria in Vallicella to the Vatican Basilica; and it will be composed of all the Secular Clergy and the Regular accustomed to take part in a great Procession of the “Body of the Lord,” and there will be carried in the view of all, the Venerable, Most Ancient, and Prodigious Image of the MOST HOLY SAVIOUR to what will be united the Miraculous Effigy of S. MARIA IN PORTICO, and those Venerable CHAINS by which the Leader of the Apostles was bound in the first persecution prompted by infernal powers and by human malice; and which were, as is recounted in the Apostolic Acts, instantaneously unfettered by the Divine Omnipotence.

It will be required, however, that all try to take part in the same Procession, but with internal sentiment of true compunction, not for curiosity or with disorder, but with modesty, humility, devotion; accompanying with contrite heart the public Prayers of Holy Church, which is the purpose for which there have been instituted the Sacred Processions, or reciting privately the Holy Rosary.

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Those who will not take part in the Procession will be able, either in the Church or at their own Houses, to be joined spiritually in the aforementioned public Speeches, reciting

for the same purpose either the Seven Penitential Psalms or the third part of the Rosary in the time that they will notice the Bells of all the Churches, which for such result will be required to sound in that morning at the 17<sup>th</sup> hour until the middle of the day, when they will sound to precisely finish the Procession. These Bells will be rung the preceding evening Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> from Ave-Maria to an hour before nightfall to give the sign of the imminent Functions.

When there will be joined the Sacred Monuments in S. Peter, they will be deposited on the Papal Altar, and they will stay exposed at least for eight days for public veneration. Through this, there will be brought in those days in the procession the Cathedral Chapters of the Basilicas and of the Collegiates, as also all the Religious Orders and the Confraternities, according to the distribution which will be done, singing or reciting the Psalms, or the Litanies of the Saints, or the Third part of the Rosary.

In order, then, for the Regular persons of one and of the other gender obligated also by perpetual seclusion, and for all the other such Laity who are Ecclesiastics and restricted in prison, or who for some corporal infirmity or other legitimate impediment will not be able to accomplish the works expressed above, or something of the same, YOUR HOLINESS permits that an approved Confessor, or to be approved after the present publication, will be able to commute the above-mentioned into other pious works: to postpone for another close time and to impose on them that which they will be able to accomplish.

By more YOUR HOLINESS exhorts everyone of whatever Orders and conditions to make frequent in those days the visit of the Vatican Basilica, not only with a truly contrite heart, but also with exterior signs of humility and of penitence,

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in a manner which everyone sees, which will be done by begging pardon and compassion; And additionally he advises those who can to go on foot, or at least without any luxury; and singularly he admonishes the Women to use modest clothing and without frivolous dress, in a form to please and not to irritate greatly the Lord.

He orders likewise all the Superiors of Religions and Congregations of one and of the other Gender, that in this time they try to attend thus, in the day as in the night, particular Orations, Penitences, and other Devotions, which, as for persons especially chosen by God, HIS HOLINESS hopes that they should attain to be the more useful for the present needs of the Holy Church.

These good works will not remain without Spiritual recompense, while HIS HOLINESS, for all the Faithful of one and of the other Gender who will participate devotedly in the solemn Procession which was mentioned, or else during the time of the indicated days will view in the Basilica of Saint Peter the above-mentioned Sacred Monuments, with reciting before them the Seven Penitential Psalms or else the third part of the Rosary; if besides they will fast on one of these days by their choice and will give some alms to the Poor, according to what he will suggest for each the proper devotion, and finally they will be confessed and will take communion during this time in any Church from their choice, with praying to the Lord God according to the indicated pious intentions of OUR LORD, HIS HOLINESS grants Plenary Indulgence, in a form of Jubilee, with the same resources for the Confessors already accorded in the Sacred

Invitation of the 5th of the current Month, and to last up until the second day of the next February.

Moreover, for whoever in the named days will visit the Basilica of S. Peter, reciting before the named Sacred Monuments the familiar Oration which begins: “Before your eyes, Lord,

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etc.,” or in place of this will recite ten times the “Pater-noster,” and the “Ave-Maria,” praying as above, HIS HOLINESS grants once for each day the Indulgence of ten Years, and as much for 40 days.

For all those who, in each of the aforementioned days, in the time of the usual sound of the bells in the evening or likewise in another hour which may be more convenient, will recite, while kneeling, the Seven Penitential Psalms, or else the Third part of the Rosary, as above, HIS HOLINESS grants for each day Indulgence of Seven Years, and as much for 40 days; and to the one who will continue the same devotion for all the named days, he assigns the same Indulgences which are acquired in Visiting the Seven Churches of Rome.

HIS HOLINESS grants all and each of the above named Indulgences, which are able to be applied by mode of suffrage by blessed Souls blessed of Purgatory.

These are Our weapons, oh Romans, Sacred and peaceful arms, because they do not bring death but life, and eternal life for one who handles them well, and even by those same ones not seldom against those who are disputed.--“These in Chariots and these by Horses, We however in the name of the Lord”—constancy, therefore, in working well, and trust, since the same God through the mouth of the Psalmist gives us courage with those consoling words--“Invoke me in the day of your tribulation, I will snatch you, and you will make much of me.” Thus we, invoking you to duty, oh great God, we will be able likewise to exalt you with the Regal Prophet--“Since you have struck all turning to me without cause, you have crushed the teeth of sins. There is the welfare of the Lord and your blessing over your people”--And may it be thus.

Given from Our usual Residence. This day the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 1798.

G.M. CARD. VICARIO.

PHILLIPPO CANONICO LIBERTI, SECRETARY.

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**No. III.**

EDICT

*GIUSEPPE of the Office of S. Peter in Chains of S.R.C. [Sacred Congregation of Rites]  
Priest Card. Doria Pamphili, and of the Holiness of N.S. [Our Lord] POPE PIUS THE  
SIXTH Secretary of State.*

THE HOLINESS OF OUR LORD, always intent and always attentive of the tranquility and of the safety of our own very loved Citizens, is not able to refrain from opening to the same his Paternal Heart in an occasion in which their tranquility and their security could be precisely altered. Romans, sage and virtuous Romans, it is your very loving Sovereign and Father who speaks to you through my means. He makes you to know that the advance of the French Armed Forces in the direction of this Capital (city) is anticipated, and it is assured that the same does not come hostilely against You. Do not fear anything, then, and protect yourselves by his strong and calm presence. He, full of faith in the rectitude and in the high-mindedness of the Republic, in the moderate and prudent conduct of its Generals, fears nothing; and animated by very tender affection for You, he does not abandon you, and he would not ever be able to abandon you in any occasion in which he would perceive you exposed to some danger. Your Sovereign your Father, I repeat it, that the Head of the Church gives you, as you see, a new and noteworthy confirmation of his own affection; but it is not possible to be dispensed without remembering at the same time your duty. Your duty is that of making your faith uniform to that of YOUR HOLINESS, and to avoid each encounter in which it is possible also to distrust. You ought not only not to bring the least affront, neither in deed nor in word, to any Individual of the French nation, whether Military or Private,

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as to Individuals of any other Nation; but [also] to be accustomed to each the same behavior of urbanity, and to show to Them with your behavior, and to give them an assurance of concord and of friendship, which THE HOLY FATHER maintains and wishes to maintain towards the Republic. Know, and you do know it, Romans, for your secure guide, that by such behavior depends principally your tranquility, your security.

For the objective of preserving everything, OUR SIGNOR uses the means which are in him; but more than in these, he relies on your attachment to the Country, on the love which you ought to have for You yourself and for your family, and [he relies] on your docility for which he appeals, and salutary insinuations.

YOUR HOLINESS wishes to dare to hope to obtain, much more by your affection and by your gratitude than by fear, an end thus appealing; but such is the present circumstance that if someone or some, not mindful of their own duty and ungrateful for the love of YOUR HOLINESS, would have been moved to convey to offend in some way the Individuals of the French Nation and to deny the Roman name by falling short of the laws of hospitality, or in another manner they would have changed the public tranquility, he will not be able with his displeasure not to be regarded and not to be punished unpardonably like Kings of State with the penalty of death.

HIS HOLINESS orders, therefore, and commands that in the public Plazas and Streets, in the Café and in the tavern, there not be formed groups, and discussions on the current affairs not be held, subjecting the Transgressors to the penalties threatened in other similar Edicts.

I assure you after all that HIS HOLINESS puts in action his most efficacious cares to reconcile the present controversies, wherefore I exhort you ardently to rest tranquilly on the pledge and, indeed, love of the best Sovereign.

And the present Edict is posted and published in the accustomed Places for the duties of Rome, and it also constrains each as if they had been personally presented, Given in the residence of the Vatican this February 9, 1798.

G.CARD. DOPRIA PAMPHILI.

*On the Day, Month, and Year on which the Edict mentioned above was affixed and was published on the doors of the Innocentian Curia, in the Battlefield of the Field of Flora, and in other usual and accustomed places of the City, by me, Josephus Pelliccia Apost. Curs. [cursor].*

Felix Castellaccus Magister Curs.

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**No. IV.**

SPEECH PRONOUNCED AT THE CAPITOL BY THE CITIZEN ALEXANDRE BERTHIER, GENERAL IN CHIEF OF THE ITALIAN ARMY.

*The 27<sup>th</sup>. Pluviofe, year 6<sup>th</sup> of the French Republic.*

Men of Caton, of Pompei, of Brutus, of Cicerons, of Hortensius, receive in the Capitol, where you have defended the rights of the people so many times and illustrated the Roman Republic, the homage of the free French people.

These children of the Gauls, the olive wood of peace in hand, come in this august place to restore the altars of liberty put up by the first of the Brutus.

And you, Roman People, by taking back your legitimate rights, you have felt which blood flows in your veins. You have taken a look at the monumental glory that is surrounding you.

You are taking back your magnitude of antiquity and the virtues of your fathers.

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**No. V.**

*LIBERTY. EQUALITY.*  
THE ARMY OF ITALY.

At the Headquarters in front of Rome, the 27<sup>th</sup>. Pluviolle, VI year of the French Republic, one and indivisible.

The citizen Alexander Berthier, General in Chief.

The Roman People has entered the rights of the sovereignty by proclaiming its independence, by giving itself the Government of the old Rome, by constituting itself Roman Republic.

The General in Chief of the French Army in Italy announces that, in the name of the French Republic, he acknowledges the Roman Republic independent, and that it is under the special protection of the French Army.

The General in Chief of the Army acknowledges, in the name of the French Republic, the temporary Government that has been suggested by the Sovereign People.

In consequence, any other temporary authority that proceeds from the former Government of the Pope is cancelled and will exert no function anymore.

The General in Chief will make all the necessary preparations to assure the Roman People its independence. For its Government to be well organized, for the new Laws to be based on Liberty and Equality, he will take all the necessary steps to assure the Happiness of the Roman People.

The French General Cervoni is responsible for providing for the police and for the security of the City of Rome, and is also responsible for putting up the new Government.

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Rome, February 15, 1798. The first day of the Liberty proclaimed in the Forum Boarium, and ratified on the Capitol with a Free vote expressed in voice, and in writing by innumerable citizens.

**No. VI.**

*LIBERTY.*

*EQUALITY.*

*February 17, Year I of the Roman Republic, one and indivisible.*

The Department of the Prefect of the Police.

TO THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE.

The foundation of the Political Liberty is the careful observance of the Religion and of the Law, under the protection of which there enters in special mode a free people. In argument of this truth, it is made clear to the Sovereign People of Rome that tomorrow, at a convenient hour, there will be sung the Cardinal's and solemn Mass, and, on the Altar of the Tribune of the August Church of the Vatican, the TE DEUM, with joyful intonation, And therefore the devoted and free Roman People are invited to take part, in order to give thanks by joyful voice to the Most High, who is the supreme Author of Religion and of Liberty.

SEEN BY THE COMMANDING GENERAL  
AT ROME

CERVONI.

*N. Crown Prefect*

*Martelli, Secretary*

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**No. VII.**

*LIBERTY.*

*EQUALITY.*

FRENCH REPUBLIC.  
THE OFFICERS OF THE ARMY OF ROME TO THE GENERAL IN CHIEF.

General Citizen,

The fast march of the Italian army over Rome in order to avenge the assassination committed on the person of General Duphot is surely a sign of the sincere devotion of all the French people to sacrifice themselves for the freedom and the happiness of their country. However, several people, endowed with power, do the rounds of the wealthiest houses of the city to take the most precious things, and do not want to give any receipt for that. Such crimes cannot stay unpunished; they cry for vengeance and dishonor the French name, which more than ever is made to be respected from the universe. Yes, we swear in front of the Eternal, in the temple where we are gathered, we reject any despoiling committed in the city of Rome [and other places of the Ecclesiastic states]. We devote hatred and contempt to the vile people who made themselves guilty of this; we also swear to stop from henceforth being the tools of all the monsters who abuse our bravery and courage.

The Soldier and the Officer are suffering in the deepest misery from lack of salary; however, the means are big. There are several millions in the fund. No more than three are needed to pay what is due. We are asking

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for the pay to be acquitted, *and this in the next 24 hours*. The states are made in each [Corps]. In consequence, the work will be swift for the ordinary pay, and for the back pay since the month of Prairial, *in the next 48 hours*. We are also asking for the belongings taken under various excuses from the houses and churches owned by the foreign powers with whom we are in peace to be put back immediately, and for all these very edifices to be restored in their previous state before our entry in Rome. Independently from the pay, we persist in asking for vengeance for the robberies committed in Rome by *ranked monsters and by devastating and corrupted administrations, sunk nights and days in luxury and debauchery*. You have, General Citizen, all the authority on hand. You can crack down on the Thieves who once again are dishonoring us; and we are telling you frankly that, unless you stop the existing excess and the people responsible for the excess who had existed, we will project the dishonor that is threatening us onto you, because you will be considered as someone sharing in the crime. We like to believe, however, that you are pure and that your future behavior will prove that to us. Since we could perfectly distort the principles that we profess in our address, we are warning you that we will send a copy to the Board of Directors, and we will publish it in all the newspapers of the French Republic. We will, in addition, print it in two languages and we will put it up in Rome, in order to prove to the Roman people our innocence for the crimes already committed.

If you are jealous, General Citizen, to retain our esteem with you (that is to say, the one of the Army), you will return to us the most rapid and complete justice.

Salute and respect.

*(Three pages of Signatures follow.)*

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**No. VIII.**

*LIBERTY.*                      *EQUALITY.*  
FRENCH REPUBLIC;  
HONOR.

*The Officers of the Army of Rome representing the so-called Army,*  
TO THE ROMAN CITIZENS.

Citizens,

The vigorous action that we have taken yesterday, as much to save our honor as to punish the Thieves who wanted to tarnish it, must have convinced you that it is not the Army who has committed the robberies in your city, but only a few horrible people. To reach the goal that we proposed to ourselves, that is to say, to hit the guilty people already reached by the [public voice], we are inviting you to come at the Rotunda and declare immediately what have been given to you in money, furniture, things, jewelry, and horses, with or without any receipt; what has been extorted from you or taken in consequence of the [tax hit]. You should not fear a confession that you owe to the vengeance of a crime; you have the protection of the Army. It is without a doubt worth the protection of a handful of thieves who will be punished soon. What will legitimately be asked to you, and on which you will be given receipts, good and valid and written by [whom it may concern], you will provide it. We want to give you Freedom, but we do not want you to be plundered.

*The Members of the General Office.*

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**No. IX.**

EDICT

*LIBERTY.*                      *EQUALITY.*  
IN NAME OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE

The health of the Republic is in the circumstance of calling attention to the greater authority of the Laws, and to the greatest severity their offense.

Any person who has attempted to conspire and plot against the Free Sovereignty of the Roman People and against the authority established in its name will be guilty before the injured Nation. He will remain under a Military Process. He will be punished with the loss of all his property and with the penalty of death.

He will be called culpable of such guiltiness whoever, either with words or with the anonymity from writing and from the Stamp or with secret announcement or with false



The payment should be made by everyone in effective current money in copper.

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*The President of the Consulate, G. de Matthaeis*  
By the Consulate  
*Through Bassal, Secretary of the Consulate, E. Visconti.*  
*For certified copy, Pierelli, Minister of the Justice, and Police,*

**No. XI.**

*LIBERTY*

*EQUALITY*

LAW

Consistent with Article 369 of the Constitution of the Roman Republic, the General of the Division Commanding the Troops at Rome decrees as follows.

First Article.

When in a Municipality where there will be stationed an insurrection or an armed Crowd, all the Priests of this Municipality will be arrested.

Article II.

Those of the above-mentioned Priests who will be accused of having incited the Crowd, whether there is insurrection or having taken part, will be taken before the Council

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of War and, if they are convicted, will be condemned to death.

Article III.

Those of the above named Priests, although not convicted of having excited the insurrections or Crowd, those who will not be able to prove that they have tried to impede it by way of persuasion or of instruction, will be retained as hostage in the Fortress, which the General in Charge will indicate by this effect and for the time which he will consider for determination.

Article IV.

It will be acknowledged that those who have toiled with zeal to prevent and to impede the Crowd, or whether an insurrection, they will immediately be placed in liberty and returned to their functions.

*The General of Divisions*  
Gouvion St. Cyr.

The Consulate orders that the present Law will be published, followed, and supported by the Seal of the Republic.

The President of the Consulate, De Matthaeis.

The Consulate's Secretary, Bassal.

*For certified copy*

The Minister of the Justice, and Police.



2. That the Presses, Copper Pots, Letters, and Forms, and other implements of which there is made use for the manufacture of the Cedole should be publicly broken and thrown in the Tibur.
3. That all the prepared Papers and Cedole, withdrawn from Circulation and extinct, should be consigned to the flames.
4. That in the instance there should be subject to public sale Four Millions of Roman Scudi of Property of the State and six Millions of Ecclesiastic Property, the price of which the Buyers will be able to pay for four of the five parts in Cedole, and for the other fifth part in Real money.
5. There promptly will be taken efficacious measures to go so far as

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to withdraw from the circulation base coins, and those of copper.

The Administrator of the Finances is charged with the executions of the present Decree, and he will make himself available for intelligence with the Consuls for the execution of two last Articles.

Undersigned

BERTHIER.

**No. XIV.**

*LIBERTY.*

*EQUALITY.*

THE CONSULS  
OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE.

*Rome, Ventoso 24, in the year 6 of the Roman Republic, the Leader  
(March 14, 1798.)*

The enormous mass of the public debt contracted by the past tyrannical, greedy and imbecile Government, having produced the most terrible effects on the public economy and on commerce, has called upon, as far as from the first moment, the representatives of the Republic to arrange the most secure, most just, and most efficacious means to impede its increase. Hence it is that the Consuls, after the most profound and fully developed considerations, and after the most exact calculations, have deliberated and decreed.

I.

That there be abolished all the laws hitherto published on the Cedole.

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II.

All the Cedole up until this day will lose *three quarters* of their nominal value, from whatever sum they are. One Cedola of 100 Scudi, for example, will have currency for the

value of 25 Scudi, and thus by proportion all the other Cedole *lesser or greater* to the 100 Scudi.

III.

All the debts contracted by two years up until this day, without the special agreement of payment in real money, and thus also all the deposits, will be paid in Cedole, with reduction by half below their nominal value. The credits matured afterwards, and the deposits made from a year before this day, will be paid in Cedole, according to their entire nominal value and without the reduction of half.

IV.

The debts subsequent to this law, as those earlier than the last *two years*, will be paid with Cedole reduced as in the second Article.

V.

There will be established within three days an administration of National and Ecclesiastic property, in which there will be placed also the property proceeding from suppressions. Each owner of Cedole will have the right to indicate to this Administration the Property that he wants to acquire, and the administration will be obligated under the request of the buyer to make an appraisal within the end of twenty days, and the public sale will be by auction with Proclamations during the following months, with pre-emption, by equal price, of the first one requesting. There will be displayed at the public sale also the long lease property belonging to the State and of the Ex-Jesuitical Patrimony, preferring always the actual long lease in parity of price, and assuring

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the compensation of improvements made in the long lease estate.

VI.

All the Cedole which will be given in payment of the above-mentioned estates will be publicly burned, proclaiming their quantity and the source from the sale made.

VII.

From the day of the publication of this law, the Administrators of the National Coffers will not have more resources to create other Cedole without a law declared by all the Nations legitimately represented.

VIII.

The National Coffers will not be obliged to receive any more deposits.

IX.

The copper money of *four and by two bajocchi* will lose, after fifteen days from the date of the present Decree, the fourth of its nominal value, and after another fifteen days will reduce to half of the same present value.

X.

The mixed money will continue to diminish its nominal value with the distinction, gradation, and within the end prescribed by the law of November 28, 1797, of the past Government.

XI.

The payments agreed upon in the intended money, with a minimum of silver or mixed and due before this day, will be according to the value of this money current at the time of the contract.

## XII.

The profits of the Places of Mountains [charitable pawnshops for the poor] which have lapsed up until the present day will be paid immediately with the Cedole not reduced, but according to their former nominal value. From this day on the profits of the Places of Mountain will be

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reduced *to one and a half per hundred*; and, so long as there will be Cedole, they will be paid with Cedole from the currency that is valued for only the fourth of their nominal value. The profits of the Places of Mountains, counted by favor of the banks of the Piety and of the Holy Spirit, will not be paid more, the credit remaining annulled. Regarding the other *remunerative Debts of the State*, the payment to take in consideration for it remains suspended.

## XIII.

The Execution of the present Edict is deferred to the Minister of the Finances.

The Consuls of the Roman Republic

Riganti, President

Bassi, Bonelli, Costantini, Pessuti, Angelucci

The Secretary General of the Consulate Bassal.

*Approved. The General in Chief MASSENA.* {in French}

## No. XV.

*LIBERTY.*

*EQUALITY.*

*Ventoso 24, Year I of the Roman Republic.*

## THE CONSULS.

In the calamity to which the past Government has tyrannically reduced this City and all the Nation, the Representatives of it, although intent with all the spirit

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to procure the possible reliefs for the People of Rome to such a degree worthy of persons of restored liberty, are not able for the present to extend their providence, therefore, by the following Articles, they Decree.

### I.

That the price of Oil will be reduced from 36 Bajocchi to 28 bajocchi a Jar.

### II.

That the price of Soap will be reduced to 5 bajocchi a Pound.

### III.

That there will be abolished all the Customs of Plaza Navona, and the Custom-duties of Wine from the grand Bank.

### IV.

That the prices of all the other kinds of provisions fixed with a tariff in the past Government should remain for now, provisionally with their rigorous observance. Any abuse of tolerance [should be] rooted out, as well as of the negligence of the past despots.

V.

The Municipality of Rome is charged in the executions of the present Decree, which will be published and witnessed.

Riganti, President  
Angelucci, Consul  
Costantini, Consul  
Bonelli, Consul  
Bassi, Consul  
Pessuti, Consul  
The Secretary General of the Consulate Bassal.

Approved by the General in Charge MASSENA.

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**No. XVI.**

*LIBERTY . . . . . EQUALITY.*  
*At the Headquarters of Rome on Ventoso 25, in the year 6 of the  
French Republic, one and indivisible.*

MASSENA, GENERAL IN CHARGE,

to the Citizen consuls of the Roman Republic.

The Edict concerning the Cedole, inciting in Citizens the most passionate admonitions, [you should] understand well to direct the revocation at once, to enact with mature knowledge such other determination which circumstances may require. Act in a manner that the recall is able to have effect this night, to be witnessed tomorrow morning.

*Health and Fraternity,*  
MASSENA.

*Rome, Ventoso 26, Year I. of the Roman Republic.*

The Consuls decree that the above-mentioned Letter be executed immediately.

Riganti, Consul President  
Bonelli, Consul,  
Bassi, Consul  
Pessuti, Consul  
Costantini, Consul  
Angelucci, Consul



ENNIO VISCONTI,  
Minister of the Internal Affairs of the Roman Republic.

The public Cash deficits, the ruin, and the loss of the National Estates, a sad inheritance of the rapacious or inept administrations of the past Government, force the Provisory Government of the Republic, in the simultaneous competition of so many obligations and duties, to have recourse to the private properties to request some help for facing of the enormous mass of the public expenses. The good Citizens will willingly meet with some sacrifice, which done spontaneously or presented by the same hands of proprietors, becomes more patriotic, spares at the same time for the public cash deficit the not-small expenses of a particular collection and administration. Consequently hurry, O Citizens, to bring for relief of those valorous Soldiers who have scattered blood and sweat for you, that quantity of objects for

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clothing which are enough to provide promptly and abundantly the urgencies, show with generous and free subscriptions that the Government does not ever betray us when it rests on patriotism, on generosity, on Republican gratitude.

**No. XIX.**

PROCLAMATION.

The General commanding the French troops in Rome, considering that the essential bases of a wise administration of the public finances are the orders and the economy;

Considering that the new Government of the Republic is found without any resource for providing for the public expenses; and that, if the ordinary means are enough for ordinary expenses, quick and extraordinary means are necessary for urgent and extraordinary expenses:

Decrees the following Law---

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To provide for the extraordinary expenses there will be raised an *extraordinary tax* over all *the landed properties* in all the extension of the Territory of the Roman Republic.

This tax to be paid in *Cedole* will be of a *three per cent of the value of the estate* for those estates that belong to *Private ones*; and of a *five per cent of the value of the estate* for those estates that belong to *religious Establishments, beneficients, and Ecclesiastic establishments* of any kind.

The *Houses of the City* and those of *pleasure* situated in the country are

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subject to the tax in the same manner as the *lands, meadows, and all other productive properties*.

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The Consulate is authorized to tax promptly the *wealthy private individuals* for a *forced loan* in current Cedoles, to collect again for the urgency of the circumstances, for expense of repaying this forced loan on the results of the tax established by the present Law.  
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Done in Rome on Germille 10, Year 6 of the Republican era.  
*The General Commanding the French troops in Rome.*  
Gouvion St. Cyr.

**No. XX.**

*LIBERTY.* *EQUALITY.*  
IN NAME OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC;  
*Fiorile 28, Year 6 of the Republican Era.*  
ORDERS OF THE CONSULATE.

The Consulate considering that the very urgent needs of the Republic do not allow for delay;

Reckoning, on the other hand, on the Patriotism and on the Republican zeal of the Citizens of this central Municipality;

In virtue of Article XXIV of the Law of Germille 10, orders

I.

That all the Inhabitants of the Town of Rome will give, by claim of a forced loan, the half of their Silver Service.

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II.

That all those who do not fulfill these orders within the term of three days following from the date of the same will be subject to a double loan by military execution.

III.

That the named Service will be received by the pawnshop at the Bank of the Holy Spirit, at the House of the Converted at Currency, and at that of Jesu.

IV.

That those Citizens who, in the places named, will receive the loan of the Service, will give to each one a receipt of the weight and value in coin of the named effects.

V.

The Consulate authorizes all the Quaestors (chief constables) and the National Treasury to receive the named receipts for their nominal value as excellent money.

VI.

That the Citizens who will not be willing to donate this in such a manner will be expected, at the end of two months, to receive the equivalent either in current bills according to the value of the day, or in copper coin at their wish.

VII.

The Ministry of the Finances is charged to carry out the present Order.

The President of the Consulate, De Matthaeis  
By/for the Consulate  
The Secretary of the Consulate, E. Visconti, Consul.

*For a certified copy, The Minister of the Finances, Busalini.*

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**No. XXI.**

(See Duppa's translation on the next page.)

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**No. XXI**

EDICT

*LIBERTY*

*EQUALITY*

THE ROMAN REPUBLIC,  
ONE AND INDIVISIBLE

*24<sup>th</sup> of February, 1798, 1<sup>st</sup> Year of the Republic*  
CONSULS.

- I. In the term of eight days must be effaced, beat down, and demolished, the arms and shields of every kind, even those of stone, at the expense of the proprietors, with an exception only to those belonging to foreign ministers.
- II. It is prohibited for anyone to wear any other cockade than that adopted by the Roman Republic, --White, Red, and Grey, without any other distinction or mixture of crosses or other devices. Persons in the actual service of foreign ministers only excepted, who are to wear the cockades of their respective nations. This prohibition is extended to all persons inhabiting in Rome, although they may be natives of a foreign country.

Riganti, President  
Angelucci, Consul  
Pessuti, Consul  
Bassi, Consul  
Bonelli, Consul  
Constantini, Consul

By order of the Roman Consuls  
Secretary General  
Bassal.

[Translation of the preceding Edict.]

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**No. XXII.**

PROCLAMATION

*LIBERTY* *EQUALITY*

GIUSEPPE TORRIGLIONI

Minister of the General Police

*Marza 5, year I, of the Roman Republic  
one and indivisible.*

The Minister of the Police, in the name of the Consulate, makes manifest to the Citizens Artists and public Inspectors the intentions to demolish the Coats of Arms of marble or of travertine in all the public buildings, not only in Rome but also in the other Countries of the Republic. There will be thereupon care of the Consuls to think about a proper decoration, and to substitute it for the coat of arms of the Roman Republic.

Health and Brotherhood

Nicola Corona, Secretary.

The End.