

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March. This day I was in company of Capt  
Oulany, who lately made his escape from Seville. The account  
from thence as to the most flattering nature. The French  
it appears met with no resistance in entering the place  
& left a body of 1500 men to keep the which a population  
of 80,000 or more, they even went further & elected a  
body of 4,000 from the inhabitants to form a Guard, called  
Guardia Civica whom they clothed armed & appointed in  
the course of 3 days, a main object the Junta ordered  
was but vainly endeavored to effect. These divided into  
2 regiments, regularly mounted guard & prevent any assembly  
of any consequence in the streets. There are generally men  
of some property & would most probably immediately turn  
against the French were the standard of Liberty universally  
raised, but till such an event takes place they form a  
complete check to popular feelings, & will soon prefer the  
combustive quiet of French oppression to the horror of war  
& the ruin of their lives & property. The value the attack  
to them they have evinced & their ease & dastardly submission.  
The conduct of King Joseph has been extremely popular  
no outrage has been committed on the property or person  
of the inhabitants, but encouragement has been given to  
all who absented themselves to return & pursue their different  
avocations in peace, several merchant laws rescinded papers  
instituted from the French General to reoccupy their forces &  
passports have been transmitted to Mr Ryan & Mr Wetherell  
with promise of protection & support if they would again  
engage in their business, these have been generally refused  
as offered to men who principle were too strong to be corrup-  
ted by a bribe attachment to freedom & their country was superior  
to mercenary considerations. They must however influence many  
& above all remove that dread & horror of the French yoke which  
was the great stimulus to resistance amongst all classes of  
the people.