

James Kent's annotations – J. P. Brissot, *J. P. Brissot, Deputy of the Eure and Loire...*

“The federal party in the N[ational] Convention being the strongest, the Jacobin clubs called in the aid of the Paris mob, and this occasioned more tumultuous invasions of the Convention in May 1793 which compelled the minority at last on 2nd June to decree the arrest of the Brissot [party] - see the U.S. Gazette of August 3rd - 7th - 24th and Sept. 4, 1793 on these proceedings. This pamphlet is dated 11 days before Brissot was arrested, but while the storm was gathering and ready to burst. The arrested deputies were imprisoned 'til their execution on 31 Oct. 1793. I have heard warm democratic men, and one who was in France when the King was beheaded, speak of Brissot and his fellows as patriots and republicans. They differed only from their enemies as to the form of the republican government. See the hist. of their arrest and execution in New A.[merican] Reg.[ister] for 1793.

Brissot mentions two interesting facts respecting the moderation of his party. 1st, they decreed against clapping and hissing [...] in the galleries of the Convention; 2nd he, and I enclude his party, were opposed to the decree of 19th Nov. - [with?] other nations - to putting the king to death and to the war with England see pa. 56-57. [...] Brissot was concerned in producing the war with Austria and in the project of dethroning the king on the 10th of August, but then he stopped and he and his party which had a fast majority in the Convention called after dethroning the king, speak with horror of the massacres of 2nd Sept. and all the subsequent injustice and rapine. Brissot was a republican and a friend to order and the law, as far as a man fanatically attached to a republic could be.”