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Marc Bouloiseau
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THE FRENCH REVOLUTION 2

The Jacobin Republic
1792-1794

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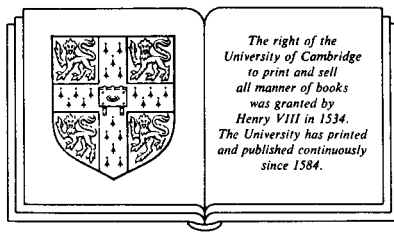
The Jacobin Republic

1792–1794

MARC BOULOISEAU

Translated by

JONATHAN MANDELBAUM



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge

London New York New Rochelle Melbourne Sydney

EDITIONS DE LA MAISON DES SCIENCES DE
L'HOMME

Paris

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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

With Editions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme
54 Boulevard Raspail, 75270 Paris Cedex 06

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521247269

Originally published in French as *La République jacobine (1792–1794)*
by Editions du Seuil, Paris 1972
and © Editions du Seuil, 1972

First published in English by Editions de la Maison des Sciences de l'Homme and
Cambridge University Press 1983 as *The Jacobin Republic 1792–1794*
English translation © Maison des Sciences de l'Homme and
Cambridge University Press 1983

Reprinted 1987
Re-issued in this digitally printed version 2007

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A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number: 83–5293

ISBN 978-0-521-24726-9 hardback
ISBN 978-0-521-28918-4 paperback

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‘Until now we have studied the history of Movements; we have not devoted enough attention to the history of Resistances . . . The resistance of ingrained mentalities is one of the major factors in the slower-moving currents of History.’

(Ernest Labrousse, *L'Histoire sociale: Sources et méthodes*,
Introduction, p. 5)

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Chronology

1792

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| <i>10 August</i> | National Convention called |
| <i>11 August</i> | Universal suffrage introduced |
| <i>14 August</i> | Lafayette tries in vain to lead his army against Paris |
| <i>17 August</i> | Special tribunal set up to try the defenders of the Tuileries |
| <i>22 August</i> | Royalist riots in the Vendée, the Dauphiné and Brittany |
| <i>23 August</i> | Longwy taken by Prussians |
| <i>2 September</i> | Electoral assemblies meet; Verdun capitulates |
| <i>2–6 September</i> | Prison massacres in Paris and the provinces |
| <i>4 September</i> | Grain requisitioned for the army at fixed price |
| <i>8–9 September</i> | Workers' riot in Tours |
| <i>20 September</i> | Recording of births, marriages and deaths entrusted to civilian authorities; end of the Legislative Assembly; French victory at Valmy; the Convention elects its officers |
| <i>21 September</i> | Monarchy abolished; Year I of the Republic |
| <i>24 September</i> | Savoy freed by French troops |
| <i>25 September</i> | Republic declared 'one and indivisible' |
| <i>29 September</i> | French occupy Nice |
| <i>8 October</i> | Prussians retreat, evacuating Verdun |
| <i>21 October</i> | General Custine occupies Mainz, then Frankfurt |
| <i>6 November</i> | Dumoriez victorious at Jemappes; Belgium occupied |
| <i>19 November</i> | France offers 'fraternity and aid' to all peoples |
| <i>20 November</i> | King's secret papers discovered in iron chest at Tuileries |
| <i>22 November</i> | Peasant unrest in the Beauce against price controls on grain |
| <i>27 November</i> | Savoy annexed to France |
| <i>2 December</i> | New Paris Commune elected |
| <i>8 December</i> | Free trade of grain declared |
| <i>11 December</i> | King's trial opens |
| <i>19 December</i> | Saint-Just elected president of Jacobin club |

1793

| | |
|----------------|--|
| 7 January | King's trial proceedings end |
| 11 January | Royalist demonstration in Rouen |
| 20 January | Le Peletier de Saint-Fargeau assassinated by a royalist |
| 21 January | Louis XVI executed |
| 23 January | Poland partitioned between Prussia and Russia |
| 1 February | France declares war on Britain and Holland; First Coalition formed |
| 14 February | Pache elected mayor of Paris |
| 21 February | Decree on 'amalgamation' of volunteers and troops of the line |
| 24 February | Levy of 300,000 men; provincial disturbances |
| 25-27 February | Groceries looted in Paris; soap and sugar sold at 'controlled' prices |
| 5 March | Royalist uprising in Lyons quashed |
| 7 March | Convention declares war on king of Spain |
| 10 March | Creation of special criminal Tribunal later called 'Revolutionary' |
| 11 March | Outbreak of Vendée rebellion |
| 18 March | Dumoriez defeated at Neerwinden; death penalty decreed for advocates of <i>loi agraire</i> |
| 21 March | <i>Comités de surveillance</i> created |
| 28 March | 'Civil death' decreed against <i>émigrés</i> , who are banished for life from French territory |
| 3-5 April | Dumoriez goes over to enemy; Philippe Egalité, Duc d'Orléans, arrested |
| 6 April | Committee of Public Safety set up; Prussians lay siege to Mainz |
| 11 April | <i>Assignat</i> made sole legal tender; sale of specie banned |
| 17 April | Romme demands women's franchise |
| 24 April | Marat, tried by decree of Convention, acquitted by Revolutionary Tribunal |
| 26 April | Chappe inaugurates signalling network |
| 29 April | Rising in Marseilles |
| 4 May | Price controls on grain and flour |
| 20 May | Forced loan of a thousand million francs to be levied on the rich |
| 29 May | Insurrection in Lyons |
| 31 May | Demonstrations outside the Convention against <i>girondin</i> representatives |
| 2 June | Arrest of 27 <i>girondin</i> representatives and 2 <i>girondin</i> ministers |

Chronology

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| | |
|---------------|---|
| 3 June | <i>Emigré</i> property put up for sale in small lots |
| 7 June | Federalist rebellion in Bordeaux and the Calvados |
| 8 June | British fleet blockades French coasts |
| 10 June | Optional division of communal lands decreed |
| 24 June | Constitution of the Year I voted |
| 26–28 June | ‘Soap riots’ in Paris |
| 27 June | Paris stock exchange closed |
| 29 June | <i>Enragés</i> violently attacked by Commune and Jacobins |
| 10 July | Committee of Public Safety revamped; Danton removed |
| 12 July | Royalist rebellion in Toulon |
| 13 July | Marat assassinated by Charlotte Corday |
| 17 July | All feudal dues abolished without compensation |
| 18 July | <i>Vendéen</i> victory at Vihiers |
| 23 July | French troops leave Mainz and are sent to the Vendée |
| 26 July | Decree instituting death penalty against food hoarders |
| 27 July | Robespierre joins Committee of Public Safety |
| 28 July | Coalition forces take Valenciennes |
| 8 August | Kellermann’s army besieges Lyons |
| 23 August | <i>Levée en masse</i> decreed |
| 24 August | Grand Livre de la Dette Publique [national debt register] created |
| 25 August | The Convention’s troops occupy Marseilles |
| 27 August | Royalists hand Toulon over to British |
| 4–5 September | Popular riots in Paris; Terror ‘the order of the day’; ‘revolutionary army’ set up in Paris |
| 6–8 September | French victory at Honschoote |
| 7 September | Property of enemy aliens in France confiscated |
| 11 September | National price controls for grain |
| 17 September | Law on suspects |
| 18 September | Varlet arrested |
| 21 September | Women obliged to wear tricolour cockade |
| 29 September | <i>Maximum général</i> on commodities and wages |
| 5 October | Revolutionary calendar adopted |

Year II

VENDÉMIAIRE

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 18 (9 October) | Lyons capitulates |
| 19 (10 October) | Government declared revolutionary for the duration of hostilities |
| 25 (16 October) | French defeat Austrians at Wattignies; Marie Antoinette executed |

BRUMAIRE

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 3 (24 October) | Trial of 21 <i>girondin</i> representatives |
| 10 (31 October) | <i>Girondins</i> executed |
| 11 (1 November) | <i>Tutoiement</i> [use of familiar second person singular] made compulsory, even in official correspondence |
| 16 (6 November) | Municipalities allowed to renounce Catholic worship |
| 20 (10 November) | Festival of Liberty and Reason at Notre-Dame in Paris |
| 23 (13 November) | <i>Vendéens</i> defeated outside Granville |
| 25 (15 November) | Lotteries abolished |

FRIMAIRE

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1 (21 November) | Robespierre attacks dechristianization and atheism |
| [14 (4 December)] | Decree on revolutionary government] |
| 16 (6 December) | Ban on 'revolutionary taxes' on the rich |
| 22 (12 December) | Marceau crushes <i>Vendéens</i> at Le Mans |
| 26 (16 December) | Hébert's friends Ronsin and Vincent arrested |
| 29 (19 December) | Toulon recaptured; later renamed Port-de-la-Montagne |

NIVÔSE

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 3 (23 December) | <i>Vendéens</i> defeated again at Savenay |
| 6 (26 December) | Hoche wins battle of the Geisberg; relief of Strasburg and Landau |

1794

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 23 (12 January) | Debate on Compagnie des Indes affair at Convention |
| 27 (16 January) | Marseilles renamed Ville-sans-Nom |
| 28 (17 January) | General Turreau's 'infernal columns' ravage the Vendée |

PLUVIÔSE

| | |
|------------------|---|
| 9 (28 January) | Speech by Robespierre at Jacobin club denouncing 'British crimes' |
| 13 (1 February) | Ten million francs allocated for poor relief |
| 16 (4 February) | Slavery abolished in French colonies |
| 22 (10 February) | Jacques Roux commits suicide in prison |
| 24 (12 February) | Momoro denounces Jacobin moderatism at Cordelier club |

Chronology

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VENTÔSE

- 3 (21 February) Barère presents *maximum général* scales to Convention
 8 (26 February) After report by Saint-Just, Convention orders seizure of suspects' property
 9 (27 February) Stiffer sanctions against food hoarders
 13 (3 March) 'Popular commissions' set up to 'sort out' suspects
 16 (6 March) Barère's report on elimination of pauperism
 23 (13 March) Hébert and his friends arrested

GERMINAL

- 4 (24 March) *Hébertistes'* trial ends; leading *sans-culotte* militants executed
 7 (27 March) 'Revolutionary army' disbanded
 10 (30 March) *Dantonistes* arrested
 12 (1 April) Committee of Public Safety sets up Police Bureau
 13 (2 April) Provisional Conseil Exécutif abolished; ministers replaced by commissions
 13-16 (2-5 April) *Dantonistes* tried and executed
 21-24 (10-13 April) 'Luxembourg plot' trial; widows of Hébert and Desmoulins executed
 25 (14 April) Rousseau's ashes brought to Panthéon
 26 (15 April) Saint-Just's report on 'Police générale de la République'; nobles and foreigners forbidden to reside in Paris and fortified towns

FLORÉAL

- 11 (20 April) Austrians take Landrecies
 19 (8 May) 27 farmers-general executed, including Lavoisier
 21 (10 May) 'Popular commission' set up at Orange
 22 (11 May) Grand Livre de la Bienfaisance Nationale [national welfare register] created
 23 (12 May) British democrats arrested in London

PRAIRIAL

- 3-4 (22-23 May) Assassination attempts on Robespierre and Collot d'Herbois
 7 (26 May) Decree forbidding the taking of British and Hanoverian prisoners
 10 (29 May) After his victory at Dinant, Jourdan takes command of Sambre-et-Meuse army

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Chronology

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| 13 (1 June) | Ecole de Mars founded to replace Ecole Militaire |
| 14 (2 June) | Naval battle off Ouessant; <i>Vengeur</i> incident |
| 16 (4 June) | Robespierre elected chairman of Convention |
| 20 (8 June) | Festival of the Supreme Being |
| 22 (10 June) | Revolutionary Tribunal reorganized |
| 29 (17 June) | Trial of the 'Red Shirts' |
| | |
| MESSIDOR | |
| 3 (21 June) | Paoli offers Corsica to king of England |
| 7 (25 June) | In Saint-Domingue, Toussaint L'Ouverture comes out in favour of French Republic |
| 8 (26 June) | French defeat Austrians at Fleurus |
| 17 (5 July) | Paris Commune votes new wage controls |
| 20 (8 July) | French enter Brussels |
| 26 (14 July) | The representative Fouché expelled from Jacobin club |
| | |
| THERMIDOR | |
| 1 (19 July) | Pro-French insurrection in Geneva |
| 4-5 (22-23 July) | Joint meetings of 'government Committees'; attempts at reconciliation |
| 8 (26 July) | Robespierre's last speeches at Convention and Jacobin club |
| 9 (27 July) | Convention orders arrest of Robespierre, his brother, Couthon, Saint-Just and Le Bas, and declares them outlaws |
| 10-12 (28-30 July) | 105 <i>robepierristes</i> executed in Paris |