

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1782.

LONDON, July 15.

DISPATCHES were yesterday received, brought by the Antelope packet, at the office of the southern secretary, from general Sir Guy Carleton, at New-York. They bring the important information, that he had received a decisive reply from congress, upon the subject of the proposals which had been submitted to them from this country; the purport of which is as follows: that they absolutely refuse to treat with this country, even upon the acknowledgment of their independence as the basis of it; that they consider independence as a blessing already in their own possession; that they will not therefore submit to receive it from any quarter as a boon; that they can at this time enter into no treaty with Great-Britain, in which France is not concerned; and that every application for a future negotiation must be conveyed through their medium.

The above dispatches operate as a complete demonstration, that the distinction which took place in the cabinet between Mr. Fox and his insidious colleague, was by no means a shade, as it was humorously represented; for had the opinion of the late secretary been adopted, all hostilities must have ceased at once with America, whereas from the weak principle of making independence only the foundation of a treaty, a concession which it appears the Americans totally reject, the one or the other of these effects must follow, that we must permit them to assume to themselves what we would not give, and to preclude the possibility of friendship with them, or make our way into their a city and good graces, through the disgraceful medium of France, our old and natural enemy.

There was something very significant in the look of Mr. Fox, on Tuesday last, in the house of commons, when he whispered over the table to general Conway, the few words "price of peace," as the condition of American independence. This circumstance admits of a most fair comment, and evidently points out, that it was upon this ground that a contrariety of opinion had obtained in the cabinet. Is it reasonable to suppose that a great people, such as the Americans, who have vindicated their privileges as citizens of the world, as erectors of a great empire, are so destitute of every distinctive idea of their own immunities, established by the magna charta of nature, and supported by the sword, with bards the first rights of humanity, or accept of them upon sale from a nation which ought to add upon more liberal sentiments, and to acknowledge independency to be the birth-right of nations? such juggling tricks may succeed in the twilight, but cannot have effect when the sun of freedom has arisen, with a bright though early dawn, to illuminate the great empire.

The debate in the house of commons on Tuesday last, now in the press, is said to be the most complete as well as the most important ever published. Upwards of five hundred copies are already bespoke, and there is scarcely a gentleman retiring into the country, who has not ordered his bookeller to send one or two after him.

A gentleman well known in the patriotic world, has ordered a hundred copies of the debate in the house of commons on Tuesday last (in the course of which the cause of Mr. Fox's resignation, and the great question of American independence, came under consideration) to be neatly bound up, as a present to the American congress.

Captain Asgill, now confined by general Washington, as mentioned in the London courant of Saturday last, is the only son of Sir Charles Asgill, and is just 25 years of age. Before he embarked for America, his father made him an offer of £. 3000 a year, provided he would give up his commission, but this the young gentleman spurned at, preferring a military life to ease and plenty at home. This amiable youth was written a letter to his father under his unfortunate confinement, but without dismay or complaint, expressing only the uneasiness of having disobeyed him in his perseverance in his duty to his country, and calling on him for his blessing and forgiveness, in consideration of its being the only act of his life in which he had done so.

Sir Charles Asgill, having been judged past recovery when the last express arrived from America, he has not been informed of the above melancholy situation of his son.

July 16. Lord John Cavendish, Mr. Fox, and Mr. Burke, after having yesterday, in the house of commons, severally given the lie direct to what fell from the new premier the other day in the house of lords, finished the session in a very solemn manner, by fixing an indelible stigma on the character of the latter: for the law of God and man concur in affirming, that "in the mouth of two or three witnesses every truth shall be established."

Short as the administration of the marquis of Rockingham was, it must always form a brilliant point in the dark page of the history of the present times; the freedom of parliament having been extended by the expulsion of contractors from the house of commons, and the freedom of election, by incapacitating revenue officers from voting for representatives.

The first symptom of peace with America, that has attended the earl of Shelburne's administration, was the appearance of "one Arnold," at the levee, where he had not ventured to show his face since the appointment of the marquis of Rockingham to be at the head of the treasury.

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The capture of the Bahama islands form another article of the catalogue of our territorial losses, and is another unhappy consequence of the late system. Nothing has been heard from Gibraltar; but on the continent it is generally believed, that admiral Hughes has been defeated, and that Hyder Ally has obtained a victory.

The mildness of the weather proves extremely fortunate to the ministerial prints, as they are not obliged to whitewash the new minister, but also blacken the friend of the people.

The herald and post, whitewashers in ordinary to the black and more minister, have taken on an additional number of hands, but on this condition, that they shall be discharged at a day's notice, as it is very uncertain how long they will be wanted for the work.

The present minister may not be exactly compared to a certain mercer, who advertises his new fashioned silks for summer wear!

BOSTON, September 19.

Last Monday arrived safe in port, the state sloop Wanton, George Little, Esq; commander, after a successful cruise of six weeks, during which she has captured a privateer brig and guns, (which she cut out of Port-au-Prince) a privateer schooner of eight guns, and a prize belonging to each, one of which is a sloop laden with sugar, the other an empty coaster, all four of which we arrived safe in port.

PROVIDENCE, September 14.

On Wednesday captain Lemuel Jenkins, of a brig, arrived here from Guadaloupe. He informs, that the continental ship Alliance has retaken a sloop called the Fortune, which had been captured by a privateer brig from Bermuda; the former master (captain Short) being on board the sloop, was sent in here as prize-master to La e François.

TRENTON, September 25.

We are told, that a large fleet of British ships sailed on Saturday last from the Hook, among which are several of the line; but their destination we do not certainly learn.

It is confidently told by persons from New-York, that Mr. Fox, who lately resigned his office as one of the principal secretaries of state in Great-Britain, is again reinstated.

By the same authority we learn, that the account of the capture of admiral Hughes, with several ships of the line in the East-Indies, is thought to be authentic; and that the fleet which left Sandy Hook on Saturday last is to join the garrison of Charles-town, and then to make a descent on one of the French West-India islands.

Smith Hetfield, an infamous refugee, who has been committing depredations on the innocent inhabitants along the lines ever since the commencement of the war, and was taken prisoner several months ago, made his escape from the guard who had him in charge, on Saturday night last.

We learn that upwards of 7000 inhabitants of New-York have signed a paper of agreement for removing to Nova-Scotia.

Yesterday Joseph Davison and John Mulliner, who were sentenced at the last supreme court to be hanged here for horse-stealing, were pardoned under the gallows.

Extract of a letter from New-Mills, Burlington county, September 23, 1782.

"Last evening, about eight o'clock, a man armed with pistols passed through this town. He being wrapped up in a great coat, excited the curiosity of some boys who were playing on the road to interrogate him whether he was going, on which he knocked one of them down, this dispersed the rest, and he made his escape to the pines: however, the neighbours were alarmed and collected together, but to pursue through woods in the dark was fruitless; sentinels were placed out as usual, and about 12 o'clock at night two of them who stood together spied a man coming from the woods, who proved to be the same that had been in the town in the evening; he was properly halted seven or eight times, but refused to answer, and still kept advancing towards them; one of the sentinels attempted to fire, but his piece did not go off; the man on seeing this rushed on them as fast as he could run, evidently appearing with an intent to seize on the sentinel, but the other who was not discovered by him, fired and wounded him in the thigh, so that he died this morning. He was very obstinate, and refused to give any account of himself other than that he was one of Cornwallis's men, and had made his escape from Lancaster in Pennsylvania; but as this is the full of the moon, at which period the infamous Bacon and his plunderers infest the country; and as we have had information that they were in the neighbourhood, it is believed here that this man was one of that banditti sent here as a spy; and it is hoped he has met with his just deserts."

The firm which was heard towards New-York on Sunday last, was supposed to be on account of the anniversary of the British king's coronation.

RICHMOND, September 21.

By a gentleman that left George-town, south-Carolina, the 1st instant, we are informed, that a number

of refugees, to the amount of two hundred, who came out of Charles-town to that place, were under arms, to serve six months (agreeable to the terms on which they were received) at the expiration of which time they were at liberty to retire to their respective homes; those who had committed depredations on the inhabitants of that state, were returned, by order of general Greene; that two vessels had arrived at George-town, from New-York, with inhabitants belonging to that state; that several vessels were provided at Charles-town, to convey some refugees to St. Augustine; and that those who chose to stay had passes granted them to withdraw from the town.

Late accounts from the northwestern settlements, contradict the report formerly published of an action between our people and the Indians, at the mouth of Wheeling.

We hear an expedition is intended against the Indian towns on the waters of lake Erie, the people in the neighbourhood of Fort Pitt having been extremely irritated with the injuries received from those savages.

Extract of a letter from Fort Pitt, dated September 3.

"From the middle till the last of July, the Indians have been very troublesome on the frontier of this country; Hanna's-town was burnt, several inhabitants killed and taken, and about the same time Fort Wheeling was blockaded for several days; for two weeks the inhabitants were in such a consternation, that a total evacuation of the country was to be dreaded, but since the beginning of August matters have been more quiet, and the people have again, in a great degree, got over their panic."

Extract of a letter from South-Carolina, dated Camp, August 29.

"A party of the enemy consisting of about 400 men, went up Cumbees in pursuit of rice; a detachment from our army consisting of 200 cavalry and about 180 infantry, were sent in pursuit of them. Colonel Laurens advanced with not a fourth part of the enemy's number, and not being able to get any assistance from the horse, the country being so very boggy, was defeated, with the loss of a howitz and 25 men killed and wounded, which was near half he carried into action. Colonel Laurens is very badly wounded, and it is said he is since dead."

"We intercepted a party of Tories two nights ago, that were going in to the enemy with about 50 head of cattle; surprised them, took two near, and all the cattle. Desertion is very frequent, and would be more so were the enemy to venture out, but they keep very close and certainly mean to go off."

"The enemy report that a frigate has arrived at Charles-town, and brings an account of 21 ships of the line and 13 frigates being on their way to Charles-town, to take off the garrison."

PHILADELPHIA, October 1.

OFFICE for FOREIGN AFFAIRS, September 30, 1782.

TRANSLATION of an arret of his Most Christian Majesty's council of state, prescribing the formalities to be observed in the shipping of prize goods out of the ports of his kingdom.

Published by order of congress.

Extract from the registers of the council of state.

THE king having been informed, that some persons abuse the facility granted by the XIVth article of the arret of his council, of the 27th of August, 1778, concerning prize goods, by shipping under sale, or in foreign countries, goods of English manufacture, and importing them as prize goods to the nations in alliance with his majesty. The king has judged necessary to explain his intentions. Being willing to provide against this abuse, and having heard the report of the sieur Joly de Fleury, councillor of state in ordinance, and of the council of finance, THE KING BEING PRESENT IN COUNCIL, has ordered, and orders, that the goods denominated in the said XIVth article of the regulation of the 27th of August 1778, and which can only be adjudged under the condition of their being sent back to foreign countries, shall not be allowed to be shipped from the ports of his kingdom, without being accompanied by the extract of the verbal process of sale made by the admiralty or the intendant or ORDONNATEUR of the marine, duly certified by the GREFFIER, or by the comptroller of the marine, and attested by the receiver and comptroller of the FARM-OFFICE, who conformably to the XVIIth article of the same ARRET, shall be obliged to mention that the goods have really been taken from the ENTREPOT or GENERAL DEPOSIT, and shipped on the vessel which they shall design. His majesty forbids the clerks of the ADJUDICATAIRE of his ports, under the penalty of losing their office, or a greater one if necessary, to suffer any part of the goods in question to be exported, unless the formalities have before been gone through.

Done in the council of state, HIS MAJESTY BEING PRESENT, holden at Versailles May the 4th, 1782.

Signed, LA CROIX CASTRIES.

ANNAPOLIS, October 10.

On Monday last, agreeable to the constitution and form of government, an election was held for delegates to represent this city in the ensuing general assembly, when Samuel Chase and Allen Quynn, Esquires, were elected without opposition.