

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, A U G U S T 3, 1786.

M A D R I D, May 6.

THE sea and land officers have all received orders to return to their respective posts; they are night and day at work in our different ports, fitting out a fleet, which some people say will be very numerous; many imagine it is destined to dispute the passage of the Straights of Gibraltar with a certain power, whilst others are of opinion it is to carry on a new expedition against the Algerines, who, after having received considerable sums of money and valuable presents, still continue to raise fresh pretences to elude the solemn publication of the treaty of peace, which we have concluded with them.

U T R E C H T, May 23.

The province of Zealand has delivered a very extraordinary resolution to the assembly of the states general, the substance of which is as follows: viz. "That the states of the province are always ready to fulfil the duties imposed upon them by the rest of the confederates, as long as they reciprocally enjoy the rights and advantages stipulated by the union, which serves as the basis of the constitution; but that the principles of that union having been hurt by the resolutions of the assembly of the generalities, dated the 17th day of February and 1st of May last, relative to the direction of the India company, they (the states of Zealand) think they have a right to enforce the just complaints which they made some time ago on that subject, and in consequence they have thought proper provisionally to limit to the 9th of September next their consent to the expences brought to their charge by the war department for the year 1786, and they hope, that before the expiration of that time their grievances will be redressed, and if not, they shall be obliged to take other efficacious measures, and do justice to themselves."

There is no doubt but the strong expressions of the above resolution have given rise to the report, that the province of Zealand absolutely intended to offer the sovereignty to his serene highness the prince stadtholder, authorised so to do by the example of the states of Guelderland, who made a similar offer to William III. The journey of the stadtholder to that province confirms many people in the above ideas; but if the consequences of such a step are maturely weighed, it will appear to be totally against the interests both of the province and the prince to bring about any such revolution.

L O N D O N, May 4.

It is of no great consequence whether our commercial treaty with Russia has been permitted to expire without effecting a renewal, through incapacity or inattention; certain it is, such is the case, and our merchants will very soon feel the effects of it. The French have very industriously taken advantage of our backwardness, and are already paying very great attention to that essential trade. By their assiduity they will doubtless soon secure to themselves those indulgencies we have so long enjoyed, and be the most favoured nation in Russia, while we quietly behold one of our most powerful and beneficial allies seduced from us, and united to the interests of our rival neighbour. Happy England, to be blessed with so able and attentive an administration.

A curious wager was decided lately at Brixton Causeway. A person undertook for something considerable, to draw a weight of seven pounds to him, which was fastened to the end of a rope, a mile in length. This, which was looked upon as a singular feat of strength, was performed with seeming ease by the undertaker, and much money depended on the event of it.

A few days since a man, in the neighbourhood of Wellington, in Somersetshire, in the height of passion, stabbed a woman, who was his fellow-servant, with a large skewer. The wound at first was supposed to be of a dangerous nature, but the woman is now in a fair way of recovery. This matter terminated unusually: the master of the house interferred, to prevent a prosecution, and was the cause of joining the hands of the parties in marriage.

A letter from Vienna, April 10, says, "It is certain that the divan has returned for answer to the Russian minister at Constantinople, that the grand signior having been from time immemorial the protector of the Georgians, and the greater part of that people being his proper subjects, his highness cannot comprehend how the empress had taken them under her protection, and that in defiance of the Sublime Porte. His tone of firmness which has

not been known to proceed from the divan lately, has a little staggered the Russian minister, but he could proceed no further without orders from his court."

Extra of a letter from Berlin, April 25.

"Since the king has been at Sans Souci, his majesty is so much recovered as to have rode on horseback almost daily, and last Friday our sovereign commanded the manoeuvres of the guard himself, and we are in hopes that his majesty will return to Berlin the beginning of May, to be present at the usual review of our garrison, and that he will also attend the grand manoeuvres which will take place in the neighbourhood of this city on the 21st, 22d, and 23d of May."

A letter from Frankfort, dated April 17, says, "We have received accounts from Naples, that on the 9th of March a severe earthquake happened again in Sicily, which had destroyed the whole district of Patti, besides a great part of Melazzo, and all the new buildings at Messina."

Extra of a letter from Algiers, via Gibraltar, March 29.

"The infectious disorder with which this city had been so long afflicted, is at length happily ceased. The dey lost four children, among whom was Mustapha Doley, a youth about sixteen years old, of very promising parts. They continue to re-build such places as were damaged during the late siege, and to strengthen the city on the sea side with additional fortifications, the regency have still disputes with some naval powers."

May 10. The American minister flatly denies the charge of his being paid through the medium of the French ambassador, as stated by lord George Gordon, and challenges his lordship, Mr. Grant, Mr. Tufts, Mr. Gray, and all the rest of mankind, to lay before the public whatever intelligence, evidence, or colour of suspicion which they have, or suppose, pretend, or imagine they have, to the contrary.

The Spanish charge des affaires last week gave public notice to the secretaries of state, that his catholic majesty has appointed an ambassador plenipotentiary to reside at our court; and that he will very shortly set off from Madrid for England.

To the printer of the London Chronicle.

S I R,

Mr. Tufts having published a letter in the papers relating the information I had the honour to communicate to his majesty's principal secretary of state, respecting Mr. Adams, it becomes my duty to lay further particulars of that intelligence before his majesty's servants and the public for my own justification.

On my return from Scotland I found a letter from a protestant friend in the state of Virginia, concerning the general assembly, and requesting my advice and interposition as president of the protestant associations. This I communicated as a piece of news, to Mr. Grant, of the southern Indian department (who lives at colonel Johnston's, in New-Norfolk-street) and that gentleman mentioned to me, that Mr. Adams, the American ambassador, was paid by France. I desired Mr. Grant to search out his authority for that report, for I should not choose to speak of such a connexion without proof of it. He said, he would ask more particulars of the gentleman who told it him, and ascertain the matter beyond doubt, as the gentleman might be relied on. Mr. Grant did so, and introduced Mr. Tufts to me (who lodged at Mr. Allen's, buckle-maker, in the Strand) as its author.

I requested them to walk into a coffee-house, that I might hear Mr. Tufts himself on the subject, who not only repeated what I had the honour to communicate to the marquis of Carmarthen, but permitted Mr. Grant, at my request, to write it down in his presence, that no mistake might happen afterwards. This writing was given to me, and I read it over to Mr. Tufts, and asked him if it was right? and he said it was; after which his address was wrote at the back of the paper, that I might know where he was to be found. On Wednesday morning I sent for Mr. Grant and Mr. Tufts, to inform them of my having published the correspondence with lord Carmarthen. Mr. Grant was at Mr. Wilton's in the country; but Mr. Tufts came to my house in the evening, and told me further, that Mr. Gray is also acquainted with the circumstances of Mr. Adams's connexion with France. I had no acquaintance with Mr. Tufts before Mr. Grant introduced him to me on purpose, as a gentleman who could furnish undeniable intelligence that the American ambassador is paid quarterly by the French ambassador.

I am sorry, however, that Mr. Tufts should think my conduct has not been consistent with propriety. If I had considered the information as a matter for secrecy, either in Europe or America, I would never have divulged it.

I am, Sir,
Your humble servant,
G. GORDON.

Welbeck-street, Friday morning.

To the printer of the London Chronicle.

S I R,

Lord George Gordon having published further particulars for his justification, I cannot be silent on the occasion, as I consider his apology a very faint one.

His lordship had no memorandum in writing from me of any transaction whatever—neither did he consult me respecting his publication. Being sent for on Wednesday morning, I called in the evening to see what his lordship wanted; he very politely declined telling me what he had done till just at my departure. On his communicating the same, I gave him to understand that I was astonished at his privilege, though I never saw the publication till next morning. As a further testimony of the foregoing, Mr. Grant called at Mr. Allen's without being sent for, and in a gentleman-like imperial manner openly declared, that lord George Gordon had no liberty whatever to publish in the manner he has done; that though he (Mr. Grant) wrote the conversation on paper, no names were mentioned; neither had he (Mr. Grant) any idea of its publication. His lordship is pleased to say, that I further told him of Mr. Gray's being acquainted with the circumstance. This is a poor subterfuge, as I told him at the very first that Mr. Gray was my author. I conclude in the same opinion as in my letter of the 4th instant.

I am your obedient servant,
S. TUFTS.

London, May 8, 1786.

The following affidavit was this day sworn before the right worshipful Robert Arington, Esq; one of his majesty's justices of the peace for the city and liberty of Westminster.

The right honourable lord George Gordon, president of the protestant association, voluntarily maketh oath, That — Grant, Esq; of Scotland, now in London at colonel Johnston's in New-Norfolk-street, and S. Tufts, Esq; of New-England, now in London at Mr. Allen's, buckle-maker in the Strand, informed him, that his excellency John Adams, Esq; the American plenipotentiary, was paid his salary quarterly by the French ambassador. That Mr. Grant wrote this information at lord George's desire, in Mr. Tufts's presence, upon a sheet of paper, called for on purpose, in the Blenheim coffee-house, beginning with Mr. Tufts's name, and also mentioning the French ambassador, Mr. Adams, and colonel Smith his secretary, all in the same paper, and then gave the paper to him (lord George Gordon) who read it to Mr. Tufts, and he approved of it in Mr. Grant's presence—after desiring the words "of Boston," which Mr. Grant had added to Mr. Tufts's name, to be struck out, as he said he did not come from Boston, but near it. That on Wednesday evening last, when Mr. Tufts came to lord George Gordon in Welbeck-street, Mr. Tufts told lord George, that the sum of the salary paid by the French ambassador, which was stated to him in the paper written by Mr. Grant to be 3000l. was upon farther inquiry 9000 dollars. Lord George Gordon further maketh oath, that his reason for communicating the above intelligence to the marquis of Carmarthen, was, that his excellency John Adams, Esq; the American plenipotentiary, or his friends, might have an immediate opportunity, from the best authority, point-dly to deny the report, if it was false, and that Great-Britain, Holland, and the United States of America, might be upon their guard for their religion, liberties, and commerce, if it had been true; and that his continual friendship, connexion, and correspondence with the United States of America in all their troubles, ever since the year 1766, when he first had the honour to be personally known to them, made it his duty as a friend, as much as it was an indispensable discharge of his duty as president of the protestant association, to proceed in this open manner

G. GORDON.

Westminster, to wit, May 10, 1786.

Sworn before me, one of his majesty's justices of the peace for the city and liberty of Westminster.

ROB. ARINGTON.