(XLIVth YEAR.) THE (No. 2203.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1789.

LONDON, *December* 6.

PROGRESS of the march of the PRINCE of HESSE, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE DANISH AUXILIARY FORCES IN SWEDEN.

We are particularly happy in laying thus early before the public, the following official letter from his royal highness the prince of Hesse, to the minister of the war department at Copenhagen. It contains the whole progress of his operations, and is the only authentic document which has been yet published on the subject.

Although there are later advices from the army, this letter is not the less material, as it explains the instructions under which the prince of Hesse acted, and that his design was to attack the Swedes, at the bridge of Quistrom, provided they had offered to dispute his passage.

Head quarters, Tanus, November 29.

THE body of auxiliary troops, assembled on the 23d of September, between Frederickstadt and Fredericksshald, were divided into 2 columns, in approaching the Swedish frontiers; the first was composed of four squadrons of dragoons, nine battalions of a company of rangers under the orders of generals During, Monsbach, Hesselberg, and colonel Stricker. The other column consisted of a body of chasseurs, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Winker, four squadrons of dragoons and six battalions. The first column I entrusted to the care of count Schmettau,—the last I commanded myself.

On the 23d in the afternoon I repaired to Ide, by the way of Fredericksshald, in company with his royal highness the prince of Denmark. The main army arrived there the following night, and the next day marched towards Orebakke: at midnight they embarked in 29 boats, and arrived at Krogstrand at six the next morning. I immediately took possession of all the heights and other advantageous posts, without meeting the least opposition. I determined the next morning to march towards Skee with four battalions, the dragoons, and a company of rangers. I ordered colonel Stricker to follow me with three more battalions. I there understood that colenel Tranefeld (the Swedish commander) was in march with 400 men and four cannon;—that on the 22d they had passed through Stromstradt, and on the 24th arrived at Swinesund.—My debarkation at Krogstrand was the more unexpected to the Swedes, as no military detachment had ever before passed the river there, on account of its danger, much less a whole body of an army.

My debarkation, however, at Krogstrand, reached the knowledge of colonel Tranefeld, as my march from thence was considerably impeded by hard rains, which prevented the coming up of the troops, so that colonel Tranefeld had time to retire in haste towards Stromstradt, after destroying all the passages and bridges in his way. On hearing that he was posted before that place, near a bridge called Wetland, I repaired thither, and on my arrival, perceived a very extended line of troops, but only one deep, with artillery, and a large number of different carriages. The bridge was broken down and the river deep. However we advanced, and found another river with the bridge likewise broken down. We were busy in getting it together again, when an officer, accompanied with a drum, advanced towards me, and asked me in the name of colonel Tranefeld, *what was the design of our army?* I answered him, "that the manifesto (hereafter mentioned) I had previously sent him, contained all I had to say."

In the mean time the bridge was repaired, and I passed it in defiles. I posted at about 1500 paces from the Swedish army, and covered the troops behind some eminences, placing myself on a battery, situated on a rock in a very advantageous position. Once more I was complimented by a message from colonel Tranefeld, delivered by an officer of artillery, requiring some explanation of my manifesto.

I immediately sent him for answer, that the king of Denmark was not at war with the king of Sweden; but that in virtue of his alliance with the empress of Russia, he found himself obliged to furnish her with a body of auxiliaries, and that I was under the necessity, though much against my will, to attack the Swedish troops wherever I found them; that nevertheless it depended on him to retire, that otherwise I should march without delay against him.

I thought, however, proper to give a formal explanation to colonel Tranefeld through one of my own officers, and I sent my aid-de-camp to him, who went with the Swedish officer. I then ordered some battalions to take possession of the rock, and formed the order of attack.

At the moment we were preparing to fire, our attack was impeded by a kind of whirlwind, attended by hail and rain, and so violent that I never was witness of the like before. All the arms were wetted, and the troops needed further time to make another disposition of attack. I profited of this interval to reconnoitre the right wing of the Swedish army posted along the river. At some distance on the banks of it, opposite to me, I perceived a troop of rangers; an officer approached and cried out to me, *Friend!* I begged of him to hear me, and asked where colonel Tranefeld was, adding, "that I should receive much satisfaction on seeing him before we began."

The colonel came, and alighted from his horse, desired to know my final purposes. I refused him at once this request, on which he retired, and took the road in the night time from Quistrom to Uddewalla. In the morning I continued my march, and detached two battalions to the help of count Schmettau to repair the bridges which lay in his road. I ordered the battalion of Sudenfeld to take possession of Stromstradt and of the royal magazine there. The troops found in it 1700 tuns of wheat and 1500 gallons of spirits. I established the hospital there.

The prince royal is with me, I design to march on to Quistrom, where I am told the Swedes are posted. The troops are in high spirits, notwithstanding the continual rains, and the fatigue of daily marches. I am myself with the advanced guard, nine miles from Stromstradt, and design to assemble the greater part of the army near Quistrom.

The count Schmettau is since arrived at Wetland, and colonel Stricker at Skee.

HESSE.

Manifesto of the prince of Hesse.

Charles landgrave and prince of Hesse, &c. &c. &c. field marshal and commander in chief of his Danish majesty's troops, makes known,

"That his majesty the king of Denmark being under engagements with Russia, and in order to fulfil the treaty with that power, on the requisition of the empress, finds himself obliged to allot a part of his forces by sea and land to her service, as auxiliary troops against Sweden:

"It is his majesty's supreme will that these auxiliary troops observe the strictest order and discipline, and that they commit no disorder whatever to any one who does not oppose them hostilely.—On the contrary, that the property of every Swedish subject should be rather protected and placed in safety; and in case that in defiance of every endeavour, any one dare thieve, pillage or exercise any violence, he shall be punished with every rigour of the law; as it is his majesty's earnest desire to alleviate, as far as circumstances will permit, the burthen of the war, and to contribute at the same time to establish peace on a sure and lasting basis.

His majesty assures himself in consequence, that in consideration of this mode of proceeding, his troops will experience, in an equal degree, a fair treatment in Sweden, particularly that the inhabitants, whether burghers of town or inhabiting the open country, will not oppose them by open violence, or attack them hostilely; in which case, all those found under arms contrary to the custom of war, will draw on themselves infallibly the most rigorous treatment, and all the ruinous consequences resulting from it."

NASSAU (*N. Providence*) *February* 14.

The sloop Elizabeth, from Exuma for New-York, was sunk on the evening of the 3d instant, in consequence of a stroke from a whale. The circumstances of this extraordinary accident, are thus related in the Protest:—"John Harvey, late mate of the sloop Elizabeth and Mary, whereof Daniel Smith was late master, and John Cork and Luke Dixon, late mariners on board the said vessel, being duly sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God, severally make oath, that on the 1st day of January last past, they sailed in and with the said sloop from the Island of New-Providence, bound for Exuma, where she loaded and took on board a cargo of salt, consisting of near four thousand bushels; that on or about the 13th of Jauuary aforesaid, having the aforesaid salt and some specie on board, to purchase a return cargo, they sailed in and with the said sloop from Exuma, bound for New-York, and on Tuesday the 3d of this instant, they went between Little Island and the east end of Elenthera, and at sun-set the latter being nearest land, bore about N. W by W. about five leagues distant; and the said deponents John Cork and Luke Dixon for themselves severally say, that about seven o'clock in the evening of the same day, being on the quarter-deck of the said vessel, (the said John Harvey being below) they discovered a very large whale on the starboard-beam spouting, which continued to approach the vessel till it arrived so close along side, that a negro man on board, one of the sailors, took up a billet of wood in order to strike and frighten it from the vessel; that before the negro could put his design in execution, the whale went down near the starboard-quarter, and rising struck the vessel under that quarter, hove her all a back in the wind, and went down again, and immediately afterwards coming up, made a most violent stroke with its tail, which however missed the vessel; but the said vessel received so much damage from the first stroke, was then sinking. And all the said deponents say, that upon the first shock of the stroke, the said John Harvey, the mate, with the master, came on deck, and finding the vessel going down, ordered the gripes of the boat to be immediately cut; but the vessel sinking from the boat, the topenlift got hold of it, and carried it down together with the deponent John Harvey, who soon rose again with it, the rest of the people in the mean time swimming about and supporting themselves with such spars and lumber as came to hand; that the violence of the stroke of the whale had drove both pumps out of their places, and finding them floating, the deponents and the rest of the crew got them lashed across the gunwales of the boat, (which was full of water) with some sennett or small plate, that was luckily fastened round one of the said pumps, that the weather being moderate, and the wind at E. the deponents and the other persons who were on board, supported themselves on the said boat and pumps, and by the assistance of an oar, they kept the boat before the wind and sea, and at day light next morning, to wit, Wednesday the 4th instant, they saw land at about five miles distant. That the aforesaid Daniel Smith, the late master, and a negro man named Will Harvey, being exausted and not able to support themselves on the boat or pumps, were drowned about one o'clock in the afternoon: And the deponents and the survivors of the crew, at about two o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, got to land in a very weak and exhausted condition, on the east end of Elenthera, near a settlement called Palmetto Point; where they experienced the most hospitable treatment from the inhabitants. That the deponents got a passage from thence, and arrived in the town of Nassau, yesterday the 9th inst. That the said cargo, specie, and every thing on board, were totally lost."

BENNINGTON, (*Vermont*) *February* 23.

We have the following ANECDOTE *of an old gentleman, belonging to the state of Vermont, from a gentleman of undoubted veracity, in the city of New-York.*

This aged gentleman from Vermont, being on his way to New-York, on business, put up at a tavern near Kings-Bridge; having rode the whole day in a storm, he desired his landlord to give him a room, fire, and provide him some refreshment, which was accordingly done; there soon after came in sixteen young gentlemen from New-York, and demanded of the landlord the best room in the house; to which, he replied it was engaged to a gentleman from Vermont, and he was unwilling to disoblige him—they then requested leave to speak with him, and proposed to hire him to quit the room; leave was given, and proposals made, and rejected; but the old man had the complaisance to offer to let them spend the evening with him—to which they replied they should raise the devil; well, says the good man, I will lay him for you—upon which the treaty closed. The young debauchees immediately ordered sixteen bottles of wine, drank them, and broke the bottles against the chimney-back;—the old gentleman (who partook with them) called in his bottle and broke it likewise:——The young fellows still determined to oblige the old man to quit his post and leave them masters of the ground, agreed that some one of the company should make proposals, and execute them himself first, and that if any person in the room refused to follow he should pay five pounds; to which all agreed:—The first was, to burn all their hats—the second, their coats—the third, their waistcoats—and fourth, their boots; which was accordingly executed by them, and the old man followed suit:——after which, he says, gentlemen, now it is my turn to make proposals—to which I demand your compliance under the same penalty as before; to which they readily consented:——The landlord was called, and a surgeon ordered with his instruments—when the old man proposed that every one of the company should have all the teeth in their heads extracted, set himself down accordingly, and ordered the surgeon to proceed; but to their astonishment, the old man had but one stump left to gratify their curiosity, which was however, sacrificed to execute the proposal; the young gentlemen soon discovered that they were out generalled; and rather than part with their teeth, settled a truce with the old hero, paid him five pounds each; paid the landlord his bill for the wine, &c. and had only the consolation to go home naked, and tell their friends, as the paddy told general Washington when he had made prisoners of five dragoons, that one old veteran rake from Vermont, had surrounded them.

NEW-YORK, *March* 23.

Yesterday arrived here, the ship North-Carolina, captain Haddock, in 35 days from Lisbon, who informs, that the day before he sailed, a British packet had arrived at that port with the intelligence that the king of Great-Britain had somewhat recovered from his indisposition, so as to be able to go out; but that his intellects were so impaired as to make it necessary for his attendants to keep an observant eye on his conduct; that the prince of Wales had been appointed sole regent; that Mr. Pitt had resigned in disgust;