(XLVIth YEAR.) THE (No. 2280.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1790.

GENOA, *May* 20.

GOVERNMENT having received accounts from different parts, that the Barbary corsairs increased in our seas, and were of great detriment to trade and navigation, have ordered a frigate to sail towards the Levant, to drive the Barbarians away.

Government has sent ten patents to different captains who are each of them to form their own companies, which are to consist of 100 men each.

We learn from Cagliari, that a Barbarian vessel having been discovered in the waters of Taccolara, two armed shallops were sent out to take her, which they did; and it is said they found on board the corsair 21,000 sequins, besides a vast quantity of valuable merchandise.

BRUSSELS, *June* 29.

Official intelligence of a skirmish between the Belgic patriots and the Austrians:—

"On the 24th inst. the Austrians attacked our posts on the side of Hav. The light infantry, and two companies of Millevois and Van Præt's, commanded by Van Præt, and a picquet under the orders of lieutenants Mulemens and Mertens, posted near the castle of Harscamp, made a noble defence. They defended themselves two hours in some entrenchments which they suddenly made, in defiance to the enemy, who began to increase every moment.

"At length, however, they retreated in good order to the mountain Belair, being compelled to this step by two pieces of cannon which the enemy fired on them incessantly.

"Hence they dispatched couriers for reinforcements. Captain Millevois, mean while, mustered as many dragoons as possible, and Van Præt followed with the regiment of infantry from Antwerp.

"Our troops, perceiving succour at hand, ascended the mountain about half way, where the fire of the enemy was very brisk; two cannons, one a three and the other a six pounder, discharging balls and cannister shot.

"At this moment our dragoons and infantry discovered that three companies of the enemy's infantry had gained the heights of the mountain; and concluding that they must sustain a very galling fire if they continued on the mount, our troops descended to the plain, where they were immediately followed by the hussars and infantry of the enemy. The action now became general, and we lost several men.

"Notwithstanding the fire of the enemy from two pieces of cannon, we killed many horses and men. Five of the hussars were made prisoners of war. In the evening the cannon from our quarters came too late to be of service. By the bravery of our troops the Austrians were compelled to fall back to the castle, where a battery protected them. On the following night they abandoned this post, and we are now in possession of it. Our troops behaved bravely, and received the thanks of the commander in chief."

Imprimatur, VAN EUPEN.

TORBAY, *July* 4.

Intelligence is received here that a second division of the Spanish fleet, consisting of fourteen sail of the line, is cruising to the southward of that of nine sail, announced to us before.

It appears that the Cronstadt and Revel ships have joined, and now lie in number 28 sail before Petersburgh; in consequence of this junction, the Swedish fleet thought it prudent to retreat to Biorko, 70 English miles from Petersburgh; and in the narrow sea in which they are, both fleets (and the Russian is the superior) are by far too large in size and number to act with advantage; and, in case of another engagement, it will depend more upon the management and discipline of the ships opposed, than their numbers.

LIVERPOOL, *July* 15.

Twelve persons are now in the infirmary, having been bitten by mad dogs: Several other dogs, suspected to be mad, are now at large, which, if suffered to continue, the most serious consequences may be apprehended: It is earnestly requested that all owners of dogs will confine them for a month.

We are happy to find no signs of the hydrophobia have yet appeared, and that the idle reports of some persons being smothered, is without foundation.

LONDON, *July* 1.

Extract of a letter from Oxford, June 10.

"On Friday last, at ten o'clock at night, Dr. Beddoes, Mr. Edwards, a commoner of Pembroke college, and Mr. Sadler, the famous English ærostatist (which latter gentleman has invented a very simple and excellent apparatus, with which gas may be collected with the greatest ease and expedition) sent up a balloon from Pembroke college green, filled with hydrogen gas from marbles, to represent and account for the production of meteors, which it did in a very satisfactory and pleasing manner.

"When the balloon had gained a certain height it suddenly caught fire; after it was consumed, the air with which it was filled still retained its globular form, and continued rolling about at a great height for a considerable time, and gave such an amazing light, as almost to resemble the sun."

The city of Chester has lately been honoured with the appearance of a prophet. The conversation and behaviour of this man overstep the usual bounds of eccentricity: he says the Millenium commenced five years ago, and that he foretold it several years before; the Messiah, he declares, is now at Lambeth, by whom he is appointed a missionary. He says, he has given up a place in the customs of 500l. per annum, to embrace this more profitable appointment. He has with him several printed posting bills, which he leaves at public houses by way of proclamation. Several letters have been put into the post-office by him, directed, "For the Messiah, Lambeth." It is extraordinary, that the conversation of this man, on every other subject evinces a highly rational and well informed mind, enriched with a knowledge of several of the living languages, but, alas! touch this his favourite string, however slightly, and his mental faculties immediately lose their harmony, get out of tune, and fall into discord and derangement. His appearance is decent and respectable.

Extract of a letter from Chelmsford, July 3.

"On Wednesday night last the George Inn in this town, and adjoining houses, narrowly escaped destruction by fire, through rats, in the following singular manner: the maid-servant put the children to bed, and left a lighted candle set safe in the room; towards the latter part of the evening the washer-woman had occasion to pass through that room with a basket of cloaths which had been washed that day, when the candle stood safe; but on their return through the same room they discovered the candlestick was beat down and the candle missing, and smelt something disagreeable like singed hair. They informed Mr. Dench thereof, who knowing the house to be pestered with rats, immediately judged the rats must have taken the candle alight into their hole, which, on further search he found they had. He then poured down the hole such a quantity of water as was supposed to be sufficient to prevent any further consequences. Soon after Mrs. Lee of the next house, in her usual way, went to look into every apartment of her premises, to see if all was safe before she went to bed, when she saw a small light shine from the joist of Mr. Dench's house; she supposed some person was going to bed there and that it was the light from their candle, but could not be easy till she went again to look at the light before she went to bed, when she found it had become considerably larger. On this she alarmed Mr. Dench, who immediately got at the place, and after unroofing a few tiles, found the candle had fired the joist in such a manner, that had it not been so fortunately discovered by Mrs. Lee, the house must in a short time have been in flames."

On Monday the 7th instant, a common hack horse, the property of a person near Birmingham, upon the turnpike road leading from thence to Hales Owen, trotted three miles in 12 minutes and 15 seconds: walked three miles in 38 minutes and 15 seconds; and galloped three miles in eight minutes and 20 seconds; being in the whole one minute and ten seconds under the hour, in which time it was undertaken he should perform the whole, for a wager of 20 guineas.

July 6. On Sunday last a very curious and uncommon phænomenon occurred in one of the gardens at Dumfries:—A hive of bees having cast, happened to light upon an adjacent one, and soon after began to enter. The bees within perceiving the encroachment, and alarmed at the number of the intruders, immediately declared their intention of repelling the invaders, by a general hum, which was no sooner made than they all came forth in order of battle. A dreadful conflict then ensued, which lasted upwards of three hours, when the besiegers were at last forced to retreat, after a very obstinate struggle, with the loss of about two thousand.

A new ship has lately been launched at Cadiz, which is by far the largest ever built; it is a four decker, and is said to carry 150 guns.

Warrants passed the treasury last week for the delivery of 30,000 gallons of rum, duty free, into his majesty's stores at Portsmouth, for the use of the navy.

Mr. Hubbard, ship-broker, in the city, has the contract for 200 sail of transports for twelve months certain.

July 10. The public have been hitherto rather uninformed of the nature of the answers brought by different messengers from the court of Madrid on the subject of the present disputes with Spain; it is therefore with great satisfaction we are enabled to state the general outline of them, and we believe with the utmost precision and correctness, as the court of Spain has made no secret of the answer transmitted to our court on the subject of the remonstrance presented by it through Mr. Fisher.

The court of Spain observes, that the differences subsisting between the two courts involve in them two distinct questions—that of the matter of fact, and that of right. That, as to the fact, it is acknowledged that English vessels were captured at Nootka Sound.

The court of Spain agrees in the justice of making satisfaction for these captures; but it desires that it might be reciprocal—that is, Spain will give satisfaction if she be in the wrong.—This grand question of satisfaction is however subsequent to the question of right, which diametrically contradicts the demand of previous satisfaction on which the court of London insists.

As to question of right—that must be determined by future negotiation with Mr. Fitzherbert, as well as a further consideration of the claims which each party has to make good.

July 12. By the late accounts from the Baltic, the junction of the Russian fleets does not seem to have been so formidable to the Swedes as was at first expected. The king of Sweden, far from appearing to be awed by that junction, or seeking the protection of his own shores, not only keeps the sea, but insults the coast of his enemy, and actually makes a descent within a few miles of her capital.

On the continent so much of the campaign has been spent in negotiation, that there is reason to hope for a conclusion to the bloody and destructive contest of ambition between the two empires and the Porte. The king of Prussia, backed by the alliance of Great-Britain and Holland, holds the balance of arbitration with an army of fifty thousand men ready to act as occasion may require.

Our armaments proceed with unabated vigour, but without any apparent disposition for immediate action. The bold demand of satisfaction previous to discussion, is evidently abandoned. Mr. Fitzherbert has stated that demand to the court of Madrid, if any such was ever meant to be made; dispatches have been received from him, and no intimation has been given of its having been complied with, nor orders issued to claim it by force of arms. Like other ministerial bravadoes, it has served the temporary purpose of raising the spirits of the minister's friends, during the general election, and will now be retracted and explained away.

Had Spain been seriously disposed to war, her policy would have been to endeavour to strike some important blow in the first instance, instead of waiting cooly till we were prepared to meet her.

It has been said that France, without an apparent breach of neutrality, may lend her seamen to Spain, and that many thousands of them have already been secretly conveyed to Spanish ports.

The Irish, imitating the example of the British parliament, has voted £.200,000 towards the expence of the present armaments, without any opposition.

The reports that have, for so many days, been flying about of the attack upon Gibraltar, of the capture of Spanish vessels, &c. are not yet confirmed, and therefore are not now credited; but it is certain that the Spaniards are employing near 4000 men in repairing the old, and erecting new fortifications on the peninsula before Gibraltar. Bomb-proof casements are, however, now added to the works of that fortress, so that our troops can go from battery to battery without being seen by the enemy.

The Austrian Netherlands still continue in their former state of confusion. Nothing but confiscation and imprisonment are going on among them, and every thing tending hastily to subject them again to the house of Austria.

ULTIMATUM OF RUSSIA.

The empress of Russia has ordered her minister, count d'Osterman, to send to all her ministers at foreign courts, a copy of the real proposals she will agree to, for concluding a peace with the Turks, in order that they may communicate the same respectively, to remove the impressions made by different news-papers, especially those of Germany, which have printed articles of pacification, as being communicated from her to the courts of London and Berlin, but which, in fact, never did exist.

The minister has, in consequence, written a circular letter, wherein, after enumerating the first begining of the disputes, the imprisonment of M. Bulgakow, and the king of Sweden's unprovoked attack (all of which the world are in possession of long since) he mentions the following as the empress's terms to make peace with the Turks.

The basis of negotiation her majesty founds on right of satisfaction for wilful offences committed against her dignity; a reasonable recompence for the losses and enormous expence of the war, and a surety for the solidity and duration of a future peace; therefore, respecting the Ottoman Porte, these three points are necessary:

Art. 1. The simple and pure renewal of the ancient treaties and agreements which have taken place between the two powers, since the peace of Kainardgi