(XLVIIIth YEAR.) THE (No. 2413.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1793.

From the *United States Gazette.*

An ACCOUNT of the fate of col. HARDIN, major TRUEMAN, and ſeveral other perſons, who were killed by the INDIANS while bearing flags of truce to the hoſtile tribes, as contained in a letter from *William Goforth*, Eſq; of Cincinnati, Weſtern Territory, to a gentleman in this city.

ON the 8th of January, 1793, William Smally, who had accompanied major Trueman on his embaſſy to the Indian nations, was before me, and gave me the following account of his journey, to wit:——That they left Fort Waſhington about the 26th or 27th of May, 1792;—that they were bound to the Maumee towns, but fell about 60 miles below ſaid towns, near to the town of Glaize, which is ſituated on a point of land formed by the Maumee and Glaize rivers; that when they left Fort Waſhington, their company conſiſted of major Trueman, himſelf, and the major's waiter; that about thirty miles before they arrived at the aforeſaid town of Glaize, they fell in with three Indians, one an elderly man, the other a young man, and the third a boy of about 12 or 15 years of age, who were encamped on their hunting ground, by the ſide of a little race; the Indians aſked them to encamp with them (this was ſun about two hours high, being the 8th day after they left Fort Waſhington) telling the major they would go into the town with them the next morning; the major agreed to encamp with them; they made a ſupper of chocolate, and aſked the Indians to partake with them; that all three of the Indians eat ſupper with them, and appeared very friendly; that major Trueman informed the Indians of the buſineſs they were on, and read over the ſpeech to them, which he (Smally) interpreted to them, and with which they appeared to be pleaſed, but ſaid they were none of the chiefs, and could not tell how it would be approved of, and that they muſt go into the town. Major Trueman and the oldeſt man ſat and talked and ſmoked, till near midnight; that the Indian ſeemed very cheerful and jocoſe—after which the major wiſhing to lay down, the old Indian ſpread a ſkin for the major, and for each of them; the major and the waiter laid down; he (Smally) himſelf ſat up ſome time talking with them; after which the old Indian told him to aſk his captain, if he would be willing that one of them ſhould be tied, ſaying the two boys would be afraid, they could not ſleep, ſeeing there are three of you, and but two of us, counting the Indian boy as of no conſequence; that he then informed the major of what the Indian had been ſaying, on which major Trueman told him to inform them, that they might tie his waiter; the Indian then tied the waiter, girding his elbows backward, and made them faſt with an old hopos, and then tied his feet acroſs each other with a bridle; the waiter then laid down, after which the old Indian came and ſat down by him, and began to talk again with great ſeeming friendſhip and cheerfulneſs; that he aſked Smally to go and ſcrape ſome bark of a ſmall beach buſh which was about two or three rods from the fire, but within the light of it, in order to mix with his tobacco for ſmoaking; that he went and ſcraped the bark, and brought it to him, and then laid down with his head within about a foot of the Indian's thigh; that the Indian then took up his gun and ſet it on the breech, and was obſerving what an ugly gun it was, and ſaid it was ſo bad he could hardly kill any deer with it; that he happened to turn his head about (but cannot ſay for what cauſe, whether to look about or to ſpit) that his head being turned, the Indian immediately brought down the muzzle and ſhot major Trueman——the ball entered his left breaſt, and came out at the ſmall of the back, which killed him immediately—the major only juſt turned, he heard him fetch one groan; that he himſelf jumped up and ran, and got behind a large ſapling; the young Indian man then took up his gun to ſhoot him—that he ſtood behind the tree, and begged, and reaſoned the caſe with him, the young fellow, for about two minutes, as near as he can recollect; that the major's waiter, who had been tied, ſtarted and broke the old hopos, with which his arms had been pinioned, and got his feet looſe and ran; that the old Indian ran after him, and brought him back to the fire; a ſcuffle enſued, when the waiter cleared himſelf, and ran off again; the old Indian caught him, and brought him back a ſecond time, during which time the young Indian was trying to ſhoot him (Smally) the old Indian then called to the young Indian man to come and ſhoot the waiter, ſaying he was ſtronger than he was; that the young man, after being called ſeveral times, ran up and ſhot him; the old man then ran up to the fire and called on him, who was on the oppoſite ſide, at but a ſmall diſtance, and within the light of the fire; that he called on him to come up to him; that Smally told him if he came there, he would kill him; he anſwered he would not hurt him; he told him, a little while ago, he had told him he would not hurt any of them—but that now he had killed them; that he then went towards him about half way, when he ſaid ſit down—he anſwered he would not, for then he would run up and tomahawk him—the Indian anſwered he would not, and perſiſted five or ſix times that he ſhould ſit down; that he ſtill refuſed, ſaying, do you ſit down, and then I will; that he then ſat down, and they reaſoned the caſe for near a quarter of an hour—when he aſked him what he had killed them for? He anſwered, their horſes, and what they had; ſaying, if he had taken them to town, he ſhould get nothing—that now he ſhould get all. That the old Indian then got up, and went and ſtript the major, and the other went and ſtript the waiter; the old Indian then told the boy to go and ſcalp them, which he did, fetching the ſcalps to him, who threw them down by him, and told the boy to go and get a couple of little ſticks, and bend them round like a hoop, and tie the ſcalps in and dry them. That he then took out all the things and looked them over, and burnt all the papers, except the ſpeech, which was faſtened to the belt—after which they divided the plunder, and ſat down till day-light, when they threw the major into an old blanket, and after carrying him about 60 yards threw him down by the ſide of an old log, and then carried his waiter, William Lynch, and laid him down by the major, and threw the old blanket over them, and covered them with chunks and poles; they then returned to the fire and made ſome chocolate, and eat breakfaſt; after which they mounted, and went about ſix or ſeven miles to the old Indian's houſe, and ſtaid all that day; the next morning they ſet out for the town of Glaize, where they arrived about two o'clock—That he ſtaid with the young Indian three or four days, when he and an Indian were ſent to the king of the Delawares, Buokungahela, who told him he was ſorry they had killed the men, that they ought to have brought them to the towns; and ſaid, then if they did not like the meſſage, they could have killed them there, they could not have got away from them. The king told him to ſtay at the houſe where he was, and not to go about, leſt the young Indians ſhould kill him, till he could go down to where his Indian brother lived, of whom he told him. [You will obſerve Smally had formerly been among the Indians, and was adopted, after which he had made his eſcape, and been away ſeveral years.] In a day or two after this, the Shawaneſe chiefs ſent for him, who lived in the ſaid town of Glaize. After he had told them what he could about the flag, they told him he might go back to the houſe where he ſtaid; that he continued about 14 or 15 days in the town, after which he went down to his brother, into whoſe family he had formerly been adopted, in the room of his adopted brother's brother, who had been killed; he lived there till the corn was laid by (by which is meant the finiſhing the hilling of it) with his brother's wife, his brother being out a hunting; that he ſtayed there till after council about eight days; from this place about 600 Indians ſtarted with a view to take Fort Jefferſon, expecting to be joined by others to the amount of 600. By conſent of his brother, whom he made believe he ſhould return, he ſet out for Detroit; being arrived there, he went to the commanding officer, and told him he wanted to get into the ſettlements of the United States, who informed him he ſhould go in the firſt veſſel going from thence; and at the departure of the boat, he gave him a paſs and ſeven days proviſions.—The officer uſed him with a great degree of kindneſs, and ordered him to ſtay with the clerk of the Indian ſtore till the veſſel was ready; that the veſſel in which he went, proceeded to Fort Ontario; from which he went to Navy-hall, where general Simcoe lives, who behaved to him with as great kindneſs as it was poſſible for a man to do, giving him a paſs and ſeven days proviſions; from thence he paſſed through the Geneſee country to Suſquehanna, at New-town point; from thence to Violvey, where he lay ſick a month at a Mr. Amos's, who treated him with great civility; from thence to Harris's ferry, where he croſſed, paſſing through Carliſle and Bedford to the Monongahela, at George creek, about 120 miles above Fort Pitt; from thence to general Wayne's Head-Quarters, at Log's-town, and from thence to Columbia, the place of his reſidence and family, where he arrived the 30th of December, 1792.

Mr. Smally farther relates, that while he was at the town of Glaize he met with an Indian, who told him he had met with Meſſieurs Joſeph Gerrard, Iſaac Freeman, and a Mr. Lavara (as near as he can recollect the name) who were alſo on an embaſſy to the Maumee towns. The Indian ſaid they came acroſs them about four days after they left Fort Waſhington; that they travelled with them about two days and an half, when they killed them in the following manner: Firſt they tomahawked Mr. Joſeph Gerrard, then ſhot the Frenchman, who was ſpreading out ſome things to dry; on which Mr. Freeman ran—that he himſelf ſhot at him and broke his arm—that he then came up with him and tomahawked him.

Mr. Smally alſo informs me, that he ſaw ſome of colonel Hardin's things which were brought into the town of Glaize, which he deems the greateſt of the Indian towns, (this colonel Hardin, with a Mr. Flinn, had alſo been ſent on an embaſſy to the Indian nations) but diſpatched to the St. Duſky towns among the Wyandots. The Indians informed Mr. Smally that they were out a hunting when colonel Hardin came up to them in a plain with the flag; that after they got to camp, where they were altogether, they conſulted what to do with them; that they were all for killing them but one, who inſiſted to take them to town and hear their meſſage, and they could but kill them when they got them there; but as the reſt were for killing them, they ſhot Mr. Flinn through the head as he was ſitting by the fire cooking; on which colonel Hardin fled—an Indian purſued him—when the colonel ſaw the Indian was like to come up with him, he turned and caught hold of the Indian's tomahawk; that while they were in the ſcuffle, another Indian came up and tomahawked the colonel: that they brought the things into the town of Glaize, and ſold ſome of them to the Engliſh.

Mr. Smally is of opinion that much the greater part of the Indians are for war. He ſays he talked with Simon Girty near two hours, that he abuſed him a good deal about our army, that they were ſo eaſily defeated. He told Mr. Girty he had come out with a flag. Girty then aſked him what congreſs meant by ſending out letters to the Girtys, offering them a pardon if they would come in; that he damned them, ſaying, I reckon when they get us in, they think to hang us. He aſked Mr. Girty when he knew congreſs to be guilty of ſuch a treacherous trick as that? He anſwered, when they killed the Moravians.

On aſking Mr. Smally what he thought reſpecting the numbers of the Indians at war with us, he ſaid he could only form a judgment from the report of the Indians—they ſay they expect at the next battle to have 8000; but he much queſtions if they could raiſe more than 5 or 6000 among the confederated nations at war with us. Mr. Smally ſeems of opinion that the Britiſh are not at this time active to aſſiſt the Indians in the preſent war; he believes they only give them yearly what they had agreed to give them at the peace with the United States; but whether this ſhould be conſidered ſtrictly as preſents, or as yearly allowances for the benefit of their trade, Mr. Smally does not preſume to ſay.

Mr. Smally was not brought before me by virtue of any legal authority; but hearing of his return, and underſtanding by his neighbours that he was a ſober man, on whoſe relation confidence might be placed, I wiſhed to have that relation from himſelf, and accordingly aſked a certain Hall, of the militia, one of his neighbours, to deſire him to come down, which he accordingly did, when I took down the account in writing, as he related it—and I believe you may rely upon the truth of the facts, ſo far as his memory could ſerve.

I underſtand congreſs have in a public manner condoled with and provided for thoſe families who have been bereaved by the late unfortunate embaſſies; ſuch conduct in my opinion, does honour and gives dignity to government; and I flatter myſelf that government will take meaſures that this poor man, Mr. Smally, ſhall be juſtly paid, agreeable to his agreement made with major Trueman, who is now dead, and unable to perform it himſelf. The juſtice of government cannot be doubted; neither would I throw out the moſt diſtant hint or inſinuation, that any of the public officers would be guilty of the leaſt degree of chicanery, by withholding the money from whom it is due, in order to force them to take orders and goods from any trader, at the advance of an hundred and fifty per cent. or higher, from any motives whatever. But the fact is, that it often happens that the troops of militia, when their money is earned, are, for want of the paymaſter's being in caſh, obliged to take a due-bill on government, which is finally paid with the greateſt juſtice; but the poor men cannot think of going to Philadelphia for it; and as they are in want, they part with their due bills to the traders at almoſt any rate, rather than run the riſk of loſing the paper and getting nothing. Theſe things greatly reduces the idea of the pay of government; and on theſe accounts you may rely upon it our country bleeds, and makes it more difficult to get, or raiſes the price of volunteers, on all occaſions.—Farewell.

LONDON, *January* 28.

LAST night it was reported confidently, that an actual deputation had arrived in town from the executive council of France, demanding an immediate and categorical anſwer to their late repreſentations—threatening, on the contrary, to march their army in eight days into Holland, and there commence inſtantaneous and moſt vigorous hoſtilities.

The French troops aſſembled on the coaſts of Normandy and Picardy amount to 110,000 men; but whether they are deſigned for the defence of the coaſts, or to attack Jerſey or Guernſey, we know not.