

The effects of these desertions have been most fatal. It would appear from all circumstances combined, that many of them went over to the enemy by the connivance and with the consent of their companions, to inform them of the readiness with which some of the corps would join the republicans, and aid them in destroying the royal army as soon as they should furnish them with an opportunity.

"Be not surprised at this seeming inconsistency and want of principle, for, from the manner in which some of these corps were filled up, nothing else could possibly be looked for by any but people who are continually expecting to see new phenomena in human nature:—During the severity of last winter offers were made to the French prisoners of war in England to be released from their captivity, and provided with cloaths and pay if they would enter themselves as volunteers, to serve under the French princes; many accepted the terms, were embodied, and transported to their native coast as a part of the force destined to restore monarchy in France; and by their means the expedition has been prematurely blighted; for, but for their treachery, we might have hoped to have stood out at least for three or four days longer!

"On Tuesday night last (the 21st instant) the republican general Hoche, who had been joined by large reinforcements, marched against the entrenchments of the emigrants on the peninsula. His approach was altogether unperceived, for his friends among the emigrants, by means of a deserter, had contrived to put him in possession of the sign and counter-sign, so that they passed several of the sentinels without suspicion. No sooner had he shewn a disposition to attack the advanced guard, than the greater part of the men joined him; and as the others threw down their arms and betook themselves to flight, he met with a little or no opposition till he reached Fort Sans Culotte, which was defended by about 5000 men. The slaughter now became dreadful. It is impossible to describe the confusion that instantly took place among the emigrants; for many of them instantly joined the republicans and assisted them in the massacre. Every man's arm was raised against his brother; it became impossible to distinguish friends from foes, and many of the officers were actually cut down by their own men when in the act of giving their orders. The whole of the entrenchments were soon carried, and the greater part of the troops cut to pieces. Two battalions, under the command of M. Sombrieu, displayed wonderful bravery; but for them not a man of the whole expedition could have escaped. He covered the retreat of such as could get off (only a few hundreds, including some women and children, who were received on board our ships, and have since been landed in two small adjacent islands) with such distinguished skill and courage as even to attract the admiration of the enemy; but what he enabled others to effect he was unable to accomplish for his own brave followers. His bravery, however, was rewarded; for if we may credit the accounts which have reached us, general Hoche, granted terms of capitulation to him and his men.

"I cannot inform you of the exact loss that has been sustained on this occasion; but, with the exception of the few who reached our ships, all who were on the peninsula, to the amount of between six and eight thousand, have been killed or taken prisoners.—All the baggage, stores, ammunition and artillery, has fallen into the hands of the enemy; besides five of our American prizes laden with wheat, which had been retained here for the use of the emigrants.

"Of the enemy's loss we can have no account; it was, however, inconsiderable.—Their force is so differently stated, that I can procure no statement of it at all to be depended on, some accounts making them fifteen and others as high as 40,000. This, however, is a matter of little moment; for, if even forty thousand men had been found insufficient, in a very few days their force would have been double that number.

"Some individuals among us affect to speak of this event as a calamity, the effects of which may be yet surmounted, and the royalism of the people of Brittany be turned to good account; be assured, however, that the whole is a delusion, and that should a second attempt be made in this quarter, a second defeat would be the consequence. Whatever consequences might have been hoped for, had an army, instead of a handful of men, been sent at first, the force of the republicans on this coast is now so formidable, that the whole legions of Germany could make as little impression as they did last campaign upon the northern frontiers of France."

PHILADELPHIA, October 2.

Extract of a letter from New-York, dated September 30.

"I would have answered your letter before this, but waited until I could send you some favourable accounts of the fever, and I am now happy to inform you that we all think it is much abated. We have only four deaths reported this morning, and I am in hopes the day will be favourable, though the inhabitants continue to desert: I really believe 16,000 have gone away, and you may be assured, for a truth, we have the greatest plenty of every necessary."

Extract of a letter from Norfolk, dated Sept. 27.

"We have now cool weather; and the fever has considerably abated in its rage; the number of deaths by the above complaint, has been about one hundred and twenty (black and white) since its commencement. Those sick at the time the cold weather came on, died. We are really now so far hardened by the frequency of the deaths of late, that every thing wears its usual lively aspect—business, what little there is, goes on with spirit; and we see nothing particular to notice but the dearth of the markets."

Annapolis, October 8.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

July 29.

PEACE with SPAIN.

After four o'clock all the members of the committee of public safety entered the hall, and the convention were informed that the committee had very important intelligence to communicate.

Trelihard, the reporter of the committee, immediately ascended the tribune. He began by reading a letter from the representatives to the people with the army of the Western Pyrenees, dated from Vittoria, 30 Messidor (July 18). It stated that the French had taken possession of that place after a forced march, which disconcerted the enemy and forced them to divide their forces. "But" continued Trelihard, "I do wrong in making use of the term enemy: Spain is no longer our enemy. It is not, therefore, for victories you are indebted to our brethren in arms; you are indebted to them for peace. The committee of public safety announces to the convention of the French republic that peace is concluded with Spain. We have thus one foe less, and one friend more. (The applause with which this intelligence was received continued for nearly a quarter of an hour) I shall now proceed to read to you

THE TREATY.

"The French republic, and his catholic majesty the king of Spain, equally animated with the desire of putting an end to the calamities of war, considering beside that there exist between them real interests, which command them to enter into union and peace, have appointed for their respective ministers to re-establish peace, the citizen Francis Barthelemy, on the part of the French republic; and, on the part of his Catholic majesty, Don Domingo d'Iriarte, minister plenipotentiary to the republic of Poland. The said ambassadors, after having exchanged their powers, have agreed upon the following articles:

ART. 1. There shall be peace, amity, and good understanding between the French republic and the kingdom of Spain.

2. In consequence thereof all hostilities shall cease between the two powers, as soon as the present treaty is ratified.

3. Neither of the two powers shall furnish against the other any contingent in men, arms, horses, money, or ships; nor shall the two powers grant a passage through their territories to any troops of a nation at war with either of the contracting powers.

4. The French republic restores to his catholic majesty all the conquests she has made in his dominions during the present war, in a fortnight from the date of the ratification of the present treaty.

5. The fortresses and strong places taken by the French republic shall be restored, with the cannon and ammunition found in them at the period of their capture.

6. There shall immediately be appointed commissioners on each side to fix in an amicable manner the respective limits of the two empires; the commissioners shall take for the basis of these limits the tops of mountains.

7. In exchange for the possessions yielded by the 4th article, the king of Spain cedes to the French republic the Spanish part of St. Domingo, with all the cannon and ammunition contained in it.

8. Until a new treaty of commerce shall be concluded between the two powers, all the communications shall remain as they were before the war. The merchants of the two nations shall travel through the territories of the two powers, provided they conform to the law, manners, and customs of the country.

9. All the prisoners on either side shall be liberated, without any distinction of rank or number. The Portuguese prisoners in the service of his catholic majesty shall also be given up.

10. The articles of this treaty extend to the republic of the United Provinces, the ally of France.

11. The French republic accepts the mediation of the king of Spain in favour of the kings of Portugal, of Naples, of Sardinia, and all the princes of Italy, for the re-establishment of peace.

12. The French republic, convinced of the interest which his catholic majesty has in the establishment of a general peace, will accept his good offices in favour of the other belligerent powers who shall wish to treat with her.

Done at Basse, the 4th Thermidor, July 22.

It was moved that this important treaty should be printed, and sent to all the departments and the armies.

Tallien supported the motion; and observed, that it was so much the more necessary, because the disaffected were invariably in the habit of denying or doubting the successes announced in the tribune of the convention. He said also, that the convention could not adopt too harsh means to repress the ill-intentioned, and to prevent the revival of every species of tyranny and royalism.—The motion was agreed to.

ACTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Letter from Niou, representative of the people, on mission with the Toulon fleet, to the committee of public safety. Dated from the Road of Frejus—26 Messidor, (July 14.)

"Citizens Colleagues,

"The following are the details of the affair of yesterday:

"At half past two in the morning, being distant about three miles to the southward from the Isle of Levant (one of the Heires Islands) we learned from the Jupiter, that the English fleet was to the windward of us. In fact, we soon distinguished it at the distance of little more than a league. The high wind of the pre-

ceding night had forced our ships to keep at a considerable distance from each other. The line of battle formed, notwithstanding, as well as circumstances permitted. The admiral gave orders that each vessel should take her place in the line, not according to rank, but as suited the speed and position of the ships. They appeared to do the same on their side, and their van was soon formed. The English fleet amounted to twenty-three sail of the line, of which five were three deckers, and eight frigates. I have already intimated to you, that we had but seventeen sail of the line and six frigates.

"The instructions which you had sent to the admiral and to me, and in which you enjoined us not to commit the force confided to us, determined us to retreat to the gulph of Frejus, or to that of Juan; for being to leeward of the Heires islands, we deemed it impossible to gain them. The wind had much fallen, but there was still a tolerable breeze; this, however, diminished by degrees, and we were at length becalmed about three leagues from land. The enemy availed themselves of the breeze, which had not yet forsaken them, and their van approached very nearly to our rear. They were, however, soon becalmed also, and fell into disorder; still, with the little wind which was abroad, they made the utmost effort to cut off our rear. We were thus in the most critical position; for the centre of the fleet, where we were placed, could not make the smallest movement. The engagement at length commenced. The French were the first to fire, and several of the English ships, of which one was a three decker, experienced much damage in their masts and rigging. The latter lost her mainmast, in consequence of which she tacked about, but still continued her fire. This movement permitted our rear to avail themselves of a breeze, which, though light and momentary, enabled them to place themselves in order.

"The admiral then perceiving that the Alcide had suffered much in her rigging, and could with difficulty follow her division, ordered the frigates, the Justice and the Alceste, to take her in tow. He made at the same time the signal to the ships which were near her to afford her every succour. He was about to give the same orders to the van-division, and to a part of that of the centre, which had been hitherto becalmed, but when a light breeze now enabled to put themselves in motion, to relieve the Alcide at the risk of a general action, for the whole of the English fleet was now bearing down. But at the instant when this order was about to be given, we perceived the Alcide entirely in flames. The hull, the masts and sails, all seemed to take fire at the same moment.

"All the ships which were near her, whether friends or enemies, immediately removed to a distance, and we renounced the design of approaching to her succour. In half an hour afterwards she blew up with a violent explosion.

"We have reason to believe, from every information which we have received, that this ship took fire by some accident; for it was remarked, that the full column of fire and smoke which was seen, arose from the interior part of the vessel.

"There was, after this deplorable accident, a slight cannonade between the rear of the French fleet and the van of the English. But the enemy soon tacked about, and our fleet continuing to make sail, anchored at 8 o'clock in the evening in the gulph of Frejus, where we are at present.

"The result of this engagement, to which you will see we were compelled, has been the loss of a ship which was destroyed by accident. But it is to be observed, that several of the enemy's vessels, were so much damaged, that they were obliged to be taken in tow; and that a fleet of 17 ships was able to make head against one of 23, the latter having the advantage of the wind, without being able to stay the course of an adversary inferior.

"I should not omit to state to you the honourable conduct of the captain of the Alceste frigate, who passed through the midst of the fire of the enemy to take the Alcide in tow, and who did not shrink from his orders until he saw her completely on fire. The captain of the frigate La Justice is also entitled to praise; for when he could not approach to the Alcide, so as to afford her relief, in his retreat he fought with much courage and some advantage a ship of the enemy.

"If the wind had not left us all at once, the French fleet would have returned to port without any accident, for it was much better worked than that of the English. Though some of the vessels are damaged, the fleet will return as soon as it can be done, without danger to Toulon. To-morrow I shall have an exact account of our situation.

"I assure you citizen colleagues, that I have neglected nothing to fulfil your purposes. The admiral and I were of opinion, that it would be better, instead of engaging a force so greatly superior to effect an honourable retreat. If we had engaged, our fleet might have been reduced to a state of inaction for the rest of the campaign. Instead of which, a short time will enable us to take again to sea. More than two-thirds of the squadron are undamaged, and in a short time the whole will be able to execute whatever orders they may receive from you.

"Health and fraternity.

(Signed)

"NIOU"

THE members of the Society of the CINCINNATI of this state, are requested to meet at Mr. WHARREN'S Tavern, in this City, on Tuesday the tenth of November next; as business of importance to the Society requires their attendance.

By order,

ROBERT DENNY, Secretary.

Annapolis, October 1, 1795.