

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, M A R C H 2, 1797.

B A S L E, November 23.

soon after the arrival of the French messenger at Vienna, an Austrian officer set off express for Paris.

M. Bartholomi sent his secretary yesterday to Paris, express, with two important dispatches. A second French courier has passed Augsburg, on his way to Vienna; and the meeting of the Hungarian diet, which was to have been on the 6th, is postponed to the 20th of November; by which time the courier dispatched to London may be expected.

P A R I S, 2 Frimaire, November 22.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORY.

Brussels, 25 Brumaire.

(Nov. 15th.) 5th year.

Citizen Bouteville, commissioner of the government in the departments united by the law of the 3d Vendemaire, 4th year, to the Executive Directory.

Citizens Directors,

" I think it of importance, that you should not be ignorant of any of the invaluable services which the French revolution renders to humanity.

" I deem it therefore my duty, citizens directors, to transmit to you a copy of the report made on the 19th Brumaire, (Nov. 9) by the commissioner of the municipality of Jodoigne, charged with enforcing the execution of the law of the 15th Fructidor.

" It appears that too much publicity cannot be given to facts, the knowledge of which ought to undeceive all such men as are not notorious imposters, and make public reason advance with rapid progress.

" A copy of the same report has been addressed by the administration of the Dyle to the public accuser at the criminal tribunal, and to the minister of general police, who will most certainly not neglect to take the necessary measures to avenge, to comfort and enlighten humanity.

Greeting and respect,
(Signed)

" BOUTEVILLE."

Report made to the municipal administration of the canton of Jodoigne, by two of its members, 18th Frimaire, 5th year.

" The undersigned members of the municipal administration of the canton of Jodoigne, called out as municipal commissioners, for the purpose of repairing to the Abbey of La Ramee, to be present at the summons which the commissioner of the Executive Directory at that administration, was to give on the 19th inst. to the ci-devant religious of La Ramee, to evacuate their monastery, and lay by their religious custom; being informed by a feeling mind, that a lady belonging to that Abbey had long been shut up in a dungeon, humanity commanded them to clear up the business. They peremptorily desired the superiors of the house to bring the said captive before them; every kind of opposition was employed, and frivolous pretexts alleged to refuse to produce her. This unexpected conduct made them renew their instances, and could not but give birth to suspicions which agured badly of the business. Having exhausted all the means of persuasion, irritated at so obstinate and unreasonable a refusal, they resolved, in concert with the commissioner of the Executive Directory at the said administration, to order the doors to be forced open.

One of the keepers appointed to guard the effects of the Abbey was ordered to execute the resolution; and while he was performing his duty a servant of the Abbey came with the keys in his hand, and the veil of the mystery approached the moment of being torn. The gates open, the commissioners enter, no living object strikes their sight; they cast their eyes on a litter of half rotten straw; on that infested straw, which the vilest of brutes would have abhorred, there was a sack which appeared to contain something; they stir about the monstrous and nauseous heap; the sack moves; every one shudders! Oh, Heaven! what an afflictive sight for outraged humanity! The unfortunate lady is discovered, flung and crammed down in that horrid receptacle, left to her fate by these female barbarians naked, and immersed in staid excrement! It was difficult to recognize the unfortunate as a being of the human species; having made her raise her head to examine her, and certify the state she was in, the first views of her exhibited a human creature, deadened by a long captivity, by her excessive torments, and the disgust of life. The first sign of sensibility she gave was, to complain of the cold. The undersigned, having observed that they came to deliver her, they ought to make herself easy, that she would immediately be restored to her primitive state; her senses seemed to revive. She begged to be conveyed to her relations, adding that she was the youngest of the family. And that she had a brother who was a friar at Louvain. We promised to comply with her request. Being afterwards interrogated respecting the cause and length of her captivity, she answered that it had lasted many months, and that it was the Abbe Boyvelle and

the Abbess, who had ordered her to be shut up, and that because she was too gay.

After those answers we wanted to make her rise; but alas! soon it was perceived that her hands and feet were shackled with large chains, fixed to a block, which kept her bent down and prostrate in the position in which she was found. A sentiment of indignation seized the heart of every spectator; every one contended to break her irons; half an hour was spent at that work; and liberty restored to her; but execrable tyranny! thy ferocious effects still subsist! Now the hapless victim has lost the use of her limbs; now she cannot assume any other attitude than that into which cruelty has crippled her; now she can neither rise erect nor walk; in short, she now preserves the deformed and humiliating form which torture and constraint have given her! But sensible and generous hearts seem eager to bestow their cares upon her; she has been decently clothed, and placed in an armed chair; she was removed to a convenient place, where she did not cease as long as the undersigned were present, to lift her eyes to Heaven, as a sign of astonishment, and of thanks addressed to the Supreme Being for her happy deliverance.

It is in this state and situation, citizens colleagues, that we found and left that object of commiseration, who, for these eight years past, has been lingering on a wretched life in the dungeon, and who bestayed no mark of fury or mania; and supposing that she had been seized with an attack of madness, who could condemn her to such a punishment? But what will not monastic despotism do? How terrible must not nature accuse the authors of such barbarity? Let them not justify so atrocious a proceeding, and insinuate that she was afflicted with madness, and had shocking fits of frenzy, which made her so prodigiously strong as to conquer all constraint; such language would only serve to confound the assassins of liberty.

The undersigned will no longer give way to these reflections. In terminating the report, citizen colleagues, and making the above proceedings known to you; the following citizens were present.

[Here follows a number of signatures, among others, P. J. Colton, the father, who gave the first information respecting the confinement of the unhappy lady.]

So done, visited and verified, at the Abbey of La Ramee, the 19th Brumaire, 5th year of the republic.

(Signed)

N. A. R. CARTIER, President,
 P. F. MATHIEU, Municipal agent
 and municipal commissioner.

(Certified a true copy)

H. L. COLSDON, Sec. Greiffier.

L O N D O N, December 13.

It is generally understood in the political circles that the imperial court unequivocally condemns the measure of sending a British ambassador to Paris to treat for peace. The present, they say, was not the fit moment for negotiations; and the attempt compromised our allies, if they refused to acquiesce in the measure it tended to excite the clamour of discontent among their people, as if the horrors of war were to be continued only through their obstinacy; and it prevented them from the vigorous prosecution of the plans which had been laid for the recovery of what they had lost.

Such is the report with regard to the disposition of the Imperial court! If this be truly stated, then lord Malmsbury may find that he has rashly pledged himself to procure the co-operation of our allies, and has insisted on putting the negotiation upon a footing which will not support him. Our ministers have got into a predicament from which they can only extricate themselves by complying with the invitation of the French, and fairly stating the precise conditions upon both parties, which they will agree to as the terms of peace, and which they may declare to be essential to the balance of Europe. As soon as the loan is filled we presume Mr. Ellis will return to Paris with this instruction.

The subscription to the new loan went on at the Bank yesterday with prosperous rapidity. It is not wonderful, after the terms given by Mr. Pitt, of requisition; and compulsion, that a voluntary loan, holding out a bonus of 11 or 12 per cent, and giving to the public till three months to prepare their deposit of 20 per cent, on the subscription, should rapidly fill, and yet we see all some panegyrics on the ardent patriotism, disinterested loyalty, and generous spirit of the moneyed men! Not one syllable is said of all the magnificent promises of the minister ending in a loss; by which the public are to think themselves gainers by paying 12 per cent, for the money which is wanted.

But, say the advocates for Mr. Pitt, it is a good bargain; because, should the loan be more of their own, by buying up the funds than by entering into the subscription, this may be true; and what

does it prove, that the funded property of England is to fall, and the distress is to great, that the few who have it can make more than twelve per cent, by dealing in government securities, instead of employing the artists and manufacturers of the kingdom. But at the same time it does not alter the nature of this important fact—that Mr. Pitt, in order to frighten the French, is to make the nation pay above 11 per cent, for money.

That this is a fact cannot be disputed; for figures speak an intelligible language. On the supposition of even another campaign, the terms secured to the subscribers will pay this bonus; for, to the calculation which we made yesterday, is to be added 11. 5s. as the interest is to commence from the 10th of October last; but, in the event of a peace, at the end of three, or even of six months, the bonus is 13 or 15 per cent.

The duke of Bridgewater subscribed 100,000l. and the whole subscription was paid, early in the afternoon, to amount to 12,000,000l.

The monarch who invented gambling, in order to divert his subjects from reflecting on the miseries of famine, is at least entitled to the praise of ingenuity and beneficence. Those monarchs who wantonly plunge their subjects into the horrid game of war, and in consequence expose them to all the real distresses of famine, cannot claim any such panegyric.

Dec. 4. It is a curious and remarkable fact, that the navy debt, through the whole of the American war, up to 1782 amounted only to the sum of 71,318,450l. and we find that Mr. Pitt's navy debt amounts, in one year, to 11,093,167l. 19s. 6d. so that, in one year, Mr. Pitt squandered above six hundred thousand pounds more than lord North spent in seven years. Yet this is the economical minister of whom Mr. Burke says, that, if ever the finances of this nation can be retrieved, Mr. Pitt is the man to retrieve them!

Dec. 9. At a late hour last night we received the Paris papers to the 6th inst.

The intelligence from the army of Italy is very important. The current of victory, it is with concern we remark, continues its rapid course in a favourable direction to the French cause. After the defeat of the Imperial field-marshal Alvinzy, Buonaparte proceeded to attack the army of general Davidovich, which had forced the French lines that covered the blockade of Mantua, and advanced as far as Castelnovo. On the 21st ult. he came up with this division, which he so vigorously attacked, that in a short time the Austrians retreated with precipitation in every direction, and were closely pursued the whole of the night by the enemy above the Corona, and along the Adige. The rear-guard of the Imperialists suffered very severely. Eleven hundred prisoners, among whom was col. count de Lehnbach, four pieces of cannon, and six caissons, fell into the hands of the French. This victory is the more entitled to serious attention, as it serves to confirm Buonaparte's account of the recent defeat of field-marshal Alvinzy, which must have been of a very decisive nature indeed; to have enabled the French general to march unimpededly, to the attack of the Austrian army, the co-operation of which it was the grand object of the field-marshal to obtain.

Buonaparte's account has not yet been published. The above is from Berthier, whose details have, on every occasion, been found to be written with much attention to accuracy and truth.

From the Rhine it is stated, that on the night of the 28th ult. a smart action took place at Kehl, the particulars of which were not known when the account was closed.

The capture of Mantua was reported at Paris on the 5th inst. but the rumour obtained no credit. Even Buonaparte's gaudy dispatch did not venture to promise the fall of that important place at so early a period.

Government we understand, received some advices from lord Malmsbury last night.

Yesterday advices were received at lord Grenville's office of the arrival at Portsmouth of the marquis of Bute and his suite, accompanied by Mr. Murray, late consul-general in Spain, from Portugal. His lordship is expected in town this day.

B O S T O N, February 8.

We are informed, that general Rochambeau is appointed by the Directory of France, to the chief military command in the island of St. Domingo, in the room of Santhonax, and his associates, whose former and latter administrations have been disgraceful to humanity and the rights of nations. Coming directly from France, he will bear the legitimate determination of the Executive Directory, as it respects neutral vessels; and from his conduct we shall soon learn, whether the orders under which the recent piracies in the West-Indies have been committed, were direct from France.

General Rochambeau was lately sent to France, in irons by Santhonax, &c.—His conduct has been examined and he acquitted. His friendship and par-