

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, S E P T E M B E R 6, 1798.

## H A M B U R G H, June 1.

LETTERS from Holland, arrived to-day, contain the most shocking details of new atrocities committed by the French in Switzerland: One hundred and thirty-three villages, and seven-and-thirty towns, have been entirely destroyed and delerted. Sion, the principal town of the Valais, was plundered during twenty-four hours, and afterwards completely burnt. The women were dragged into the streets naked, and after the most brutal insults, thrown over into the flames. Above forty children were stabbed with bayonets.

The fermentation is so violent, that Ochs, the new modeller of the Helvetic republic, is afraid to appear in public; the French have given him a guard for his person, otherwise he would be torn in pieces.

According to the Vienna Gazette, the Turkish troops in the late battle with Passawan Oglu, are said to have lost 3000 men, with 10 cannon, and two mortars. The Beglerbeg of Notolia had his pipe shot out of his mouth, and immediately retreated with the choicest of the Asiatic troops. The captain Pacha, however, who, on the 12th ultimo arrived at Cziflow, has marched against the rebels with a numerous army, with which a flotilla will co-operate. The grand seignor has set the price of 50,000 pialtres on the head of Passawan Oglu.

## H A G U E, June 2.

The miscarried expedition of the English against Ostend has been so far effectual as to let the people of the whole coast of Belgium, Flanders and Batavia in motion, for the purpose of accelerating and increasing the armaments, which are every where prepared against the enemy—our Directory has been particularly active in reinforcing the garrisons and strengthening the batteries on the sea coasts, particularly in Zealand, where even the fishing barges called gassars, are fitted for gun-boats. The garrison of this place has also been reinforced with a battalion of infantry and a company of artillery. The works in the dock yards are also carried on with the greatest activity, and every thing is done to put our fleet on the most respectable footing.

## R A S T A D T, June 1.

The Prussian minister resident here, according to what has transpired, has declared to the French minister Bonnier, that the unexpected demands on the part of the republic, communicated in the last note relative to the fortresses upon the right shore of the Rhine, have made a very sensible impression upon his Prussian majesty, particularly as the king can view those demands in no other light than as offensive and menacing measures, which will oblige his majesty to continue his cautionary preparations: Ehrenbreitstein, he contends, should be considered as a fortress calculated for the defence of the north of Germany, and necessarily included in the line of his observation. The Prussian minister added at the same time, that the king had no design to enter into any new coalition, provided the French gave up the demands above-mentioned, his majesty having no objection to their peaceable possession of those countries upon the left side of the Rhine ceded to them by the empire.

Another letter, same date.

The Imperial envoys have solemnly declared they can by no means agree to the late demands of the French; these being inconsistent with the independence of the German empire and dangerous in respect to the tranquillity of other states.

People are full of expectation for the issue of prince Reprin's negotiations at Berlin, and those of count Cobenzel at Seltz, which are said to include the affair of Bernadotte at Vienna.

In Alsace, and all along the left shore of the Rhine, the young men have been lately put in requisition to reinforce the French armies.

## V I E N N A, May 30.

The head of the Italian insurgents, it is said, has promised to restore the pope to his seat: their numbers are daily increased, by persons wanting bread and destitute of employ.

All the military in Hungary are in motion. The infantry in particular are completely armed, and, according to the new dispositions, each Hungarian regiment consists of 4500 men. The banishment of Poles and Italiam is still going on.

## S A L E M, August 24.

Yesterday Capt. Beson arrived at Marblehead, from Bayonne, in France. His original destination was to Boston, but he was captured by a French privateer, within a short sail of his port, and carried into Bayonne, where he found his countrymen, and other neutrals, the victims of a system of plunder,

which disregards every principle of justice or morality. An indiscriminate condemnation of captured property was carrying on at Bayonne; that taken from Americans and condemned, amounted to nearly a million and a half of dollars. Capt. Beson lost his cargo, but by some compromise retained his vessel, in which he brought home forty of his countrymen, and saved them from the alternative of entering on board French privateers, or starving. The pretexs for condemning were of the most trivial kind, and amounted to nothing short of a declaration of war against all neutral property.

They expected at Bayonne that these acts of rapine would finally rouse the Americans to war, and that in consequence their West-India colonies must fall; but these events they disregarded as of no importance, so long as there was commerce for their privateers to prey upon.

New privateers, from sixteen to twenty guns were continually building and launching, and they were professedly destined against the Americans, at whose conduct they affect to be much irritated.

But the merchants, and people of information, who were not immediately interested in privateering, discovered an uneasiness at the present state of things, when they dared to express their sentiments, and appeared to be both tired of their government and ashamed of the injuries which were heaped upon the Americans.

The military themselves, who are distributed throughout the country to keep the people in awe, begin to murmur; not at the cause in which they were engaged, but that their pay was considerably reduced.

There was a great deal of talk at Bayonne of an expectation that Spain would withdraw her connexions with France.—This would be extending the field of privateering, and increasing the emoluments of the Directory, who receives 15 per cent. of the amount of all prizes.

Capt. Beson has favoured us with French papers to the 15th of June.

By the Cief du Cabinet de Soverains of the 10th of June, it appears that the French government had received an English paper, containing the dispatches of the American envoys to the president of the United States, which were communicated by the president to congress on the 2d of April.—In consequence thereof the following letters passed between Mr. Gerry and M. Talleyrand—which letters are also published in the said paper, after a long, insidious, and in many respects false, commentary on the dispatches. It does not appear that the dispatches themselves have ever been published in Paris.

### Interesting correspondence.

The minister of Exterior Relations (M. Talleyrand) to Mr. Gerry.

Paris, May 30.

I communicate to you, Sir, a London Gazette of the 15th May (old style.) You will therein see a very extraordinary publication. I cannot learn without surprise, that some perfidious persons have availed themselves of the retired manner in which the envoys of the United States chafe to live, to make them propositions and hold with them conversations, the object of which was evidently to deceive them. I beg you to let me know immediately the names of the persons designated by the letters W. X. Y. and Z. and also the lady whom Mr. Pinckney declares to have conversed with him on American affairs. If you have an objection to send them in writing, please to communicate them confidentially to the bearer. I rely on your zeal to enable the government to investigate these intrigues, of which I congratulate you on not being the dupe, and in your desire to see it perfectly satisfied.

### Mr. GERRY'S ANSWER.

Paris, May 31, 1798.

Your letter, citizen minister, of the 30th instant, and the Gazette to which it refers have been handed me. The last contains all the informal negotiations communicated by the envoys to the government.

If the unauthorized persons have come forward, or if having linked names they have exceeded them, they have abused the French government and the envoys; I am not competent to judge of this, as they did not produce any document whatever to prove that they were authorized to treat with us. The publications in question suffice to show how very delicate my situation is, with respect to the names of these persons, and they contain circumstances which I hope will enable you to investigate the affair without insisting upon further communication from me.

Desirous, however, to dispel suspicions by which innocent persons may be embarrassed, I have no objection to declare that three of the individuals alluded to are strangers; and that the fourth acted only as a messenger and interpreter.—You will observe, citizen

minister, the extreme reluctance of the envoys to this informal mode of treating, by their reply of October 30th, to certain propositions that had been made them. The 1st of November they determined to put an end to such communications, and have kept their resolution, in opposition to repeated attempts that have since been made. They nevertheless consider it their duty to communicate every thing to their government.

Accept, citizen minister, the assurance of my profound esteem,  
ELBRIDGE GERRY.

The minister of Foreign Relations, to Mr. Gerry.

Paris, June 1, 1798.

I have received, Sir, your letter of yesterday.— You inform me, 1st, that the Gazette presented you contains all the informal negotiations communicated by the envoys to their government; 2ndly, That the persons in question have not produced to your knowledge any document whatever to show that they were accredited; 3dly, That three of the individuals alluded to, (viz. in the order I have placed them, W. X. Y.) are strangers; the fourth, that is Z. hath acted only as a messenger and interpreter.

Although I fully conceive of your reluctance to name these persons; I must pray you instantly to subject it to the importance of the object; please either to give me their names in writing, or communicate them in confidence to the bearer; name the woman that Mr. Pinckney alludes to; tell me if any of the citizens attached to my office, and authorized by me to see the envoys, have said a word that had the least affinity to the disgusting proposal made by X. and Y. to remit any sum whatever, for corrupt purposes.

### Mr. GERRY'S ANSWER.

Paris, June 3, 1798.

Citizen Minister,

I have received your letter of the 1st inst in which after having repeated a part of mine of the 31st May, you urge me immediately to yield to the importance of the object, and to give you, &c.

As to the persons designated by X. Y. and Z. I will forward you their names in writing, under my hand and seal, if you will assure me they shall not be published as coming from me, although this measure does not appear to me necessary to discover them;—and Z. informs me that he will make himself known: as W. has never said a word to me relative to X. or any part of our communication, I presume that the manifest inconvenience that would result to me from relying upon mere hearsay, is a sufficient excuse for omitting his name.

I cannot give you the name of any woman, for no one has had any political conference with me since my arrival in Paris.

As to the citizens attached to your office, and authorized by you to see the envoys in your official communications, I cannot collect one word from any of them that had the least relation to the propositions made by X. and Y. in their informal negotiations, to pay money for "corrupt distributions."

Accept, &c,

The minister of Foreign Affairs, to Mr. Gerry.

Paris, June 4, 1798.

SIR,

Your letter of yesterday is just received. You may address to me in perfect confidence the names that you announced under your hand and seal. I assure you they shall not be published as coming from you.

[The names have in fact been sent to the minister, who instantly deposited them with the proper authority.]

## B O S T O N, August 24.

Captain Freeman, who arrived on Friday from Marseilles, via Gibraltar, informs, that the French fleet sailed from Toulon 18th May, and sailed eastward, consisting of 17 sail of the line, 6 frigates, and 300 transports, their destination unknown, but supposed against Naples and Sicily; or against Alexandria in Egypt; that the next day, general Buonaparte in a frigate, left Toulon, to join the fleet, as commander in chief of the expedition.

On the 28th May, captain Freeman was boarded by a part of admiral Nelson's fleet, consisting of 3 ships of the line and 3 frigates, who expected to be joined immediately by 12 ships of the line more, to proceed after the French fleet; they informed him, that a few days before, they had a severe gale of wind, in which one of their ships lost a fore-mast.

While at Carthage, captain Freeman was informed, that in the above-mentioned gale of wind, the French fleet lost 3 ships of the line and several transports.

On Saturday arrived here, the ship Champeadown, captain Ditchborough, in 62 days from St. Johns. We have been favoured with a St. Johns paper of