

dutchess of Dorset accompanies his lordship, and we understand they will leave town this day or to-morrow.

It has been rumoured for some days past, that Spain had refused to surrender the island of Trinidad; and that orders had in consequence been given by our government for the renewed blockade of her ports:—We believe the reports to be unfounded, although we are unable to account for the extraordinary impetuosity of the cabinet of Madrid in the important affair of peace. It is a fact, that although application has been made by our government for passes to secure our merchant vessels from any molestation from the cruisers of Spain, which, in the event of meeting, might have resulted from the latter being ignorant of preliminaries of peace being signed, yet none have been received and no British vessel, with the exception of carrels, has yet sailed from this country for any of the ports of Spain. There are, indeed, three ships at Portsmouth, and several in the river, about to proceed to Alicante, Barcelona, &c. but whether they will continue to wait for passes, or sail on the faith of the existing treaty, is not we believe, decided; although the Portsmouth ships were expected to have sailed some days since.

December 24.

It is highly probable that government is in expectation of the immediate conclusion of the definitive treaty of peace; and to this hope may be attributed the unexpected adjournment of both houses of parliament, to next Monday, instead of the intended adjournment for the recess. Mr. Addington's declaration, in answer to the question put to him by Mr. Windham, that the treaty of Badajos is to be considered as the basis of the negotiations between Great Britain and France as far as they respect Portugal, while that of Madrid is to be annulled: must prove a subject of great satisfaction to the country. It evinces the peculiar attention given by ministers to the interests of our most faithful ally, as well as their firmness in resisting the incroachments aimed at by France upon the Portuguese territory in Guiana, although the measure had been ratified by the tribunate and legislative body.

Marriage in France is to be thus celebrated; it is to take place at the house of one of the parties after the banns have been published twice at the interval of ten days. The marriage cannot be celebrated till three days after the second publication. The celebration of the marriage is to be by the civil officer.

December 25.

A morning paper contains the following article;—"Private advices from Paris relate an anecdote of so extraordinary a nature that we cannot venture to give credit to the relation; although the circumstance is mentioned in letters from persons of the greatest respectability. The following is said to have lately occurred: Talleyrand waited on the first consul, and acquainted him that he had reason to believe the consular majesty might obtain an infanta of Spain in marriage, provided he would divorce himself from his present wife, whose conduct, while she lived with Barras, is well known. Buonaparte heard the proposition of his minister, but was cautious of taking any step in it until he had founded Fouche, the minister of the police, who knows more of the state of the different factions and the intrigues of the capital than any person in France.

"Fouche, who is a determine enemy of Talleyrand, availed himself of this opportunity (as the story goes) of endeavouring to compass the ruin of the ex-bishop, and conceived that no method could be so certain as to inform madame Buonaparte of the proposal that had been made her husband. It is not difficult to foresee the denouement. The enraged lady sent her mandat for the secretary of state to appear before her, and made it very plain to him, that she had no intention of being divorced any more. Talleyrand, it is said, is become fully sensible of the danger of interfering between a man and his lawful wife, and the infanta is to get herself another husband."

December 28.

The power that the lords of the admiralty have given to commanders in chief is—that each of them shall try, condemn, and hang any person found guilty of mutiny, without consulting in any respect, the admiralty board.

December 30.

We last night received Paris papers to the 26th instant. The Moniteur contains the official notice of the sailing not only of the fleet from Brest, but also of the squadrons at l'Orient and Rochefort. The total force to which those squadrons amount, is 23 ships, of which five are Spanish. They carry in the transports that accompany them 25,000 men. It does not appear, however, that the French government consider the object of the expedition as likely to be soon accomplished, as they have established regular mails to St. Domingo, and means of communication with that colony.

Yesterday the master and wardens of the company of bakers waited on the lord mayor at the mansion-house respecting the affize of bread, when his lordship, after minutely examining the returns of the meal-weighers, found that wheat and flour had risen since their last returns, he therefore was obliged, very reluctantly to raise the bread half an affize, or one penny in the peck loaf, to commence and take place to-morrow; The price of the quartern loaf will then be one shilling and one farthing.

Buzz, December 16.

Notwithstanding all the conjectures that were formed with respect to the expedition, which was said to have been delayed by other causes than by contrary winds, it has availed itself of the first fair

wind, and has set sail, part the night before last, and the remainder yesterday morning. Yesterday at two P. M. it was out of sight. General Gravina, when he set sail, saluted the fort with 15 guns, which the garrison returned. When the Brest Squadron shall have joined the ships from the other ports, the following will be the order of sailing:

Squadron of Observation.

Guerrero, Villa-Vicencia, general, capt. D. Vicente Julian; S. Pablo, captain Monaz; Neptuno, on board of which is gen. Gravina, captain D. Valdez; S. Francisco Alis, captain Jole de Mendez; S. Francisco-Paulo, captain Jph. Figueroa; Soledad, captain Quelada; Vigilente, captain Diego Boutrou.

Light Squadron.

Le Foudroyant, L'Aigle, La Guerriere, L'Indefatigable; these ships were not at Brest.

First Squadron.

L'Union, Le Patriote, capt. Maistrat; L'Ocean, captain Petit; Le Duquesne, captain Querangal; Le Jean-Jaques Rosseau, captain Berenger.

Second Squadron.

Le Mont-Blanc, captain Magon; Le Argonaute; Le Scipion; Le Cisalpin, capt. Bergevin; Le Douguai-Trouin.

Third Squadron.

Le Watigni, capt. Gourdon; Le Gaulois, capt. Simeon; Le Jemappe, rear-admiral Dordelin, capt. Cosinao; La Revolution, capt. Rolland; Le Hero.

First Squadron. Frigates.

L'Uranie; La Conelie; La Sirene, Fregate de l'Admiral, captain Lamarc-Lameillerie.

Corvettes.

La Serpente; La Diligent; La Deconverte.

Second Squadron. Frigates.

La Franchise; La Clorinde; L'Embutcade.

Corvettes.

Le Renard; Le Poisson Volant.

Third Squadron. Frigates.

La Comete; La Vertu; La Vaieureuse.

Corvette.

Do Cigogne.

Convoy.

La Furieuse (commandant,) captain Toplent; La Fraternelle, capt. Bernard; La Fidele, capt. Boureyne; La Precieuse, capt. Desmontils; La Necessite, capt. Kergatiou; La Cigogne, capt. Guinare; La Decouverte, capt. Passart (this corvette is the admiral's;) Le Poisson-Volant Cutter, capt. Arnous; La Danae.

BALTIMORE, February 16.

We republish the following letter from Bourdeaux, in order that the subsequent observations may be better apply. The subject is of the most interesting nature, and should arrest the attention of our government in time

Extract of a letter from a respectable commercial house at Havre, to their correspondent in Philadelphia, dated December 10, 1801.

"It is with pleasure we inform you, that the intercourse between France and Louisiana is on the point of becoming very frequent by the exchange which is about to be (if not already) made between the French and Spanish governments. The Spanish part of St. Domingo, ceded by the treaty of peace to France, is to be restored to Spain, in lieu of Louisiana, which is to be put possession of the French. Vessels are already preparing to sail for New-Orleans."

The foregoing may be very pleasing intelligence to the responsible commercial house at Havre. Not so, we imagine, as regards the interests, political and commercial, of the United States. It is perfectly understood that Spain has ceded Louisiana to France, and as it is said, in lieu of the Spanish part of St. Domingo. This is not the first time that the colony of Louisiana has been the devoted victim of the cabinets of France and Spain. Without consulting the wishes or interests of the colonies, the duke de Choiseul, whose memory is still execrated in Louisiana, transferred in 1793 the island of New-Orleans, and the pretensions of France to the western bank of the Mississippi to the crown of Spain. The sanguinary measures that ensued on possession being taken by general O'Reilly, are still recollected with horror by the citizens of New-Orleans.

A quiet subjection to the Spanish crown for nearly 40 years, has almost naturalized the colony to its new masters; who, with every characteristic of national imbecility, has nevertheless fostered the colonists by annual expenditures for the support of government, amounting to about two millions of dollars, together with commercial privileges and bounties.

This colony is again to change masters—a measure which assuredly has been extorted from the tottering monarch of Spain, and which will ultimately lead to the dismemberment of his immense rich and fertile dominions on the continent of America. These doubtless are the east regions for the enterprise of the French malcontents, to which the premier consul alludes, when he counsels those who cannot remain quietly home, to emigrate in quest of wealth and happiness.

It is matter of just surprise that this probable event has not hitherto engaged the public attention.—Although the report has been long in circulation, it has been disregarded as a circumstance of little moment, to the United States.—But what the result of a change of possession may prove, is of serious import.

The United States, at present, enjoy by virtue of the treaty with Spain, the free navigation of the Mississippi, with the right of depot at New-Orleans—or some other convenient position contiguous to the

mouth of the river. How will this treaty be affected by the change?

As long as Louisiana continues in the possession of Spain, an intercourse will exist between New-Orleans and the other Spanish colonies, which will furnish a demand for the produce of the western settlements, although the American flag will not be admitted in Cuba, &c. Spanish subjects will undoubtedly be privileged to export and import provisions.—An illicit intercourse will, moreover, be kept up with the Spanish dominions—which are too extensive to be effectually secured against a contraband trade.

With the change of proprietors, these benefits must undoubtedly cease.

What can the French offer in return?—will the government allow a direct export of provisions to their islands? or will the jealousy of the French merchants aim at a monopoly, and thus bear down the price of flour, &c. below their fair value. Or will not the policy of this intriguing nation, hold forth every allurement to the inhabitants of the Trans-Allegany settlements, by affording them generous markets for their produce, and inveigle them by degrees into the idea of forming a separate empire.

What is meant by Louisiana? is that term confined to the island, as it is called, of New-Orleans, and the small district of country adjoining the embouchure of the Mississippi?—Or does it extend to the ancient pretensions of France to an undefined boundary westward of this mighty river, and running north to the pole? Whoever has conversed on this subject with a Frenchman, statesman, or private citizen, knows full well his national prejudices; the jealousy with which he views Canada in the possession of the English—and the countries west of the Allegany, owned by the United States. He exultingly demands, who first explored these wilds? and considers their present occupation, as the result of imperious necessity—an usurpation, to be recovered whenever circumstances permit. Confine yourselves to the eastward of your mountains, the great cordons of nature, and which the French nation endeavoured to establish and maintain, at the epoch which first called forth the talents and enterprise of our immortal Washington. Should the French gain possession of Louisiana—and we believe, must firmly, that part of the embarkation at Brest is destined for the Mississippi; how long will it be before the immensely rich mines of St. Fee will attract their cupidity, and allure the restless settlers on the western waters to unite in a common cause, to establish a new empire under the auspices of France, and reduce the Spanish dominions of Mexico and Peru? What control can the Atlantic States have over their western territories?

These are among the leading ideas with which this important subject teems. And, as before observed, it is matter of just surprise, to remark the total indifference with which it has been treated. There was a time when New-Orleans might have been preoccupied by the United States. But that day we believe is gone for ever. France will disgorge her disbanded myriads on these fertile shores, in preference to the sultry wilds of Cayenne; and set our government at defiance. Under these impressions, we cannot but consider the expulsion of the French from Egypt as the greatest misfortune that could befall the United States. That country would have engrossed the attention of the French nation, and have left Louisiana in the tranquil possession of Spain, until the period should have arrived, when it would naturally have become a component part of the United States.

Not long since two black men fell into a dispute about their religious principles.—One insisted upon it, that if a man once became a good man, he never would fall away and become a wicked man again; "If it should so happen (says he) it prove he nebbew was good man." The other replied—You know Mr. N. T. he had great state, negro and every ting, and was wort ten or fifteen thousand pound—but now he poor beggar cause he got no state now:—Tink tis prope he nebbew had any? His antagonist went away chopfallen.

To be SOLD, at Beard's Habitation, at PUBLIC SALE, on Thursday the 18th day of March, if fair, if not the first fair day, for cash,

A LARGE and very valuable stock of horses and cattle, among which are some choice milch cows and work steers; also a large stock of hogs, Indian corn, hay, and bacon, plantation utensils, household and kitchen furniture. The sale to commence at 10 o'clock, and continue from day to day till all is sold.

STEPHEN BEARD, Jun.
THOMAS BEARD, Jun.
Beard's Habitation, February 25, 1802.

Slave in Custody.

COMMITTED to Saint-Mary's county gaol, on the 12th of September, 1801, as a runaway, a negro man, about forty years of age, by the name of FRANK, about five feet six inches high, very black, and has lost part of his fore teeth, says he belongs to a KINSKY GINNINS, of Montgomery county; his cloathing an osnabrig shirt, and country cotton trousers, an old red plush waistcoat, one old red striped ditto, an old hat and shoes. His master is requested to pay his fees and take him away, or he will be sold as the law directs.

FRANCIS MILLARD, Sheriff of Saint-Mary's county.

September 19, 1801.