

to take the blame from our ministers; and it is hoped that though inferior arrangements may require time, both parties are too deeply engaged to their respective countries, to embroil them again in war, without some very extraordinary cause.

The public anxiety principally turns on the supposed connexion betwixt the negotiation at Amiens, and the armaments preparing at our ports; but the latter may be a measure of precaution totally unconnected with any disputes that may arise among the plenipotentiaries, and may be satisfactorily accounted for from the French expeditions to the West-Indies; yet a little more explanation, on the part of ministers, would be very desirable.

Three per cent. Cons. March 12, 67 5-8. falling.

#### PLYMOUTH, March 7.

Yesterday the *Barfleur*, of 98 guns, rear-admiral Gollingwood, capt. Ommazy, and the *London*, of 98 guns, capt. G. Murray, were paid six months wages, and sailed directly for Torbay.

The *Courageux*, of 74 guns, capt. Sotheby, has particular orders with respect to her being victualled and stored for five months; from which arises a conjecture that she is destined most probably to the East-Indies.

#### PORTSMOUTH, March 8.

An order was this morning received by express, at the dock-yard, to store and fit for sea immediately the *Windfor Castle*, of 98 guns, vice-admiral Mitchell; *Princess Royal*, of 98 guns, captain Atkins; and the *Justice*, of 80 guns, captain Sir Edmund Nagle; they are fitting with all possible expedition, and will most probably sail on Wednesday next.

March 9.

The greatest activity prevails in the different departments of the dock-yard, to get the line of battle ships, which were ordered yesterday, ready for sea; several companies of shipwrights were immediately sent on board of each, where they are upon double tides, and will sleep on board until the ships are ready for sea.

#### NEW-YORK, April 26.

By a gentleman who arrived here yesterday in the sloop *Cato*, in 7 days from Bermuda, we learn, that just before he sailed, the *Circe* frigate, with troops for the garrison, arrived there in a short passage from Jamaica. The news by this frigate was, that there were on the Jamaica station 22 sail of the line, 29 frigates, and a number of sloops of war, including 4 admirals, one of whom was admiral Mitchell. They had learned at Jamaica, that the French commander in chief, at the Cape, had hung an American captain on suspicion of his intention to supply Touffaint with ammunition.

Our information adds, that an American schooner from the eastward, had been seized at Bermuda, and sold, in consequence of smuggling gin, &c. The information was lodged by one of the seamen, in consequence of a dispute between him and the captain. Through the influence of the custom-house officer, the schooner which was worth 3000 dollars, was only appraised at 600, for which sum she was bought in by the original owner.

The port of Bermuda is to be shut against neutral vessels after the 10th of May next, agreeably to a proclamation of the governor.

The ship *Mary*, Bain, arrived here on Saturday in 35 days from Cowes. We have been favoured by a gentleman with the loan of a file of London papers brought by this vessel, which extends to the 12th March inclusive. Though seven days later than our last European accounts, these papers contain no intelligence of "great pith and moment." From the articles we have selected (and which comprize every thing worth selecting) our readers will perceive that the English Channel fleet, and that for the West-Indies (of which Nelson is to have the command) have been considerably reinforced; and that these warlike dispositions have occasioned much anxiety in the minds of the people, who are apprehensive that the negotiations at Amiens will terminate unfavourably for peace, and that hostilities will shortly recommence. It is very probable, however, and some of the best informed politicians concur in the opinion, that these hostile appearances are only a part of that system which the policy of nations has generally adopted previous to the final adjustment of their disputes, and that the preparations for war are the only prelude to a general pacification.

Our next advices from Europe will probably enable us to form a more correct judgment on these mysterious circumstances.

April 27.

A correspondent, to whom we are indebted for some valuable observations on rural economy, informs us, that "when a plumb tree is in full bloom, before the flowers turn and begin to fall off, to smoke them all over with salt hay in a morning, before the dew is exhales, will effectually cure them from gumminess, and from falling off before they are ripe. It has also been found good for apricots, and all other fruit subject to like evils."

April 28.

To the Editor of the *Mercantile Advertiser*.

It is equally agreeable as useful, to publish, for the general information, such observations as that in your paper of yesterday, respecting the preservation of plumbs and apricots from worm. If the following preventative against grubs in peach trees is thought worth a place in your paper, it will be found on experiment of great advantage to those who are fond of cultivating that excellent fruit.

The grub worm is supposed to originate in the egg of a wasp, laid within the bark at the surface of the ground, and being hatched in the spring of the year, destroys the tree at its roots, occasioning a copious oozing of gum in the part affected, as well as in the trunk and branches; the leaves turn yellow, and the fruit drops off almost as soon as set. In order to prevent this, dig away the ground clear from the bottom of the stock, and after picking out all the worms from under the bark, and cleaning off the gum which had been discharged; pay the parts and all round the bottom of the tree with a mixture of one third tar and two thirds soap fat or slush, and leave the roots uncovered till dry, when the ground may be filled round as before. If the branches are affected, clear out the worms and pay the parts with the mixture; but, in compounding this, avoid putting more tar than one third, as it would bind the tree, and prevent its bearing.

S. A.

#### PHILADELPHIA, April 27.

Extract of a letter received yesterday by the British packet, in 42 days from Falmouth.

"We do assure you we never saw such a quantity of wheat in Britain at this season of the year, and sales so miserably dull in every market in the island, and prices daily falling—no wonder that it is the case when every other kind of grain is so low—oat-meal 14d. to 15d. per peck, and rather likely will be lower. The granaries are prodigiously crowded with grain."

Another letter dated Falmouth, March 7, contains the following: "We have as yet but an uncertain prospect of peace—last night's papers contain votes of parliament for the continuance of the army establishment for twelve months—and they are fitting out a great number of ships at Portsmouth and elsewhere. The mail is just closing; the captain of the packet puts up at the same inn and is just going off."

April 29.

Died, on Tuesday last, at Trenton, Richard Howell, Esq; late governor of New-Jersey.

#### NORFOLK, April 27.

Arrived, the brig *Merchant*, capt. Burroughs, 22 days from Trinidad.

Left there, the schooner *Harmony*, from James river, to sail in a few days.

Two days before captain B. left there, orders were received by the governor to put the island under martial law; in consequence the forts were immediately garrisoned and provisioned, and every preparation was made to repel force by force. It was there hourly expected that hostilities would be recommenced; a fleet of 13 sail of French and Spanish ships of war were said to be cruising off Tobago, waiting orders to proceed to Trinidad.

#### BALTIMORE, May 1.

By a gentleman who came passenger in the *Charlotte* arrived at Portsmouth from Antigua, we are informed that on the 5th February, arrived at Antigua two French frigates with troops from France, and supported by the English frigate *Magnamene*; on the 14th one of the French frigates was, by order of the free people of colour BURNT.—The English, with the other French ship, lay off Guadaloupe. Lord Lavington, K. B. is called home.—Gen. Fuller of the 59th regiment, is appointed in his place, and is over all the armies in the leeward islands.

The French government bills, now at market in the United States, are already at 40 per cent. discount.

[*Boston Centinel*.]

The senate has passed the bill for admitting the North-Western territory as a state into the union, with some amendments, which the house of representatives have agreed to.

On Wednesday a petition was presented in the house of representatives from Thos. Cooper, praying a remission of his fine, imposed under the sedition law.

Mr. Griswold moved to reject the prayer of the petition. Mr. Giles moved to postpone the consideration of the petition till the 3d Monday in November.

On this motion a debate ensued, in which Messrs. Giles and Randolph supported, and Messrs. Griswold and Bayard opposed the motion.

The question on postponement was carried by a large majority.

Yesterday Mr. Nicholson, from the committee appointed to inquire into the application of public monies appropriated by law, &c. made a report.

This report is very long, and is accompanied by ample details, which are generalised into a luminous point of view.

We shall, as soon as possible, present the whole of this important document to our readers. When presented, the contents will justify their most sanguine expectation; and they will find that the expenditures of public money, made by the late administration, without legal appropriation, or remaining unaccounted for, are immense.

Mr. Randolph, from the committee of ways and means, reported a bill, making an appropriation of 2,664,000 dollars, for carrying into effect the convention between the United States and his Britannic majesty, which was read three times, engrossed and passed.

[*National Intelligencer*.]

A dispute which lately took place in Paris between a military man and an apothecary. The soldier insisted upon satisfaction from his adversary, and appointed a meeting next morning in the Bois de Boulogne. The next morning the apothecary waited upon his antagonist before the hour appointed, and

said to him with great coolness, "You are a military, I am a medical man; you understand the use of the sword and pistol—I am only acquainted with drugs. You are the challenger, therefore I have a right to choose my weapon. Here are two pills; one is poisoned the other is not. Do you please eat and swallow it, and I will swallow the other." The officer laughed very heartily at this proposition, and they sat down to breakfast very good friends.

[*London paper*.]

#### Annapolis, May 6.

CONGRESS adjourned on Monday last.

#### Law of the Union.

An ACT to establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and to repeal the acts heretofore passed on that subject.

BE IT ENACTED, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, That any alien being a free white person, may be admitted to become a citizen of the United States, or any of them, on the following conditions, and not otherwise:—

First, That he shall have declared, on oath or affirmation, before the supreme, superior, district or circuit court of some one of the states, or of the territorial districts of the United States, or a circuit or district court of the United States, three years at least, before his admission, that it was bona fide, his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and to renounce for ever, all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whatever, and particularly by name, the prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whereof such alien may, at the time be a citizen or subject.

Secondly, That he shall, at the time of his application to be admitted, declare on oath or affirmation, before some one of the courts aforesaid, that he will support the constitution of the United States, and that he doth, absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to every foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whatever, and particularly by name the prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whereof he was before a citizen or subject; which proceedings shall be recorded by the clerk of the court.

Thirdly, That the court admitting such alien shall be satisfied that he has resided within the United States five years at least, and within the state or territory where such court is at the time held, one year at least, and it shall further appear to their satisfaction, that during that time, he has behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the principles of the constitution of the U. S. and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same: *Provided*, That the oath of the applicant shall, in no case, be allowed, to prove his residence.

Fourthly, That in case the alien applying to be admitted to citizenship, shall have borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the orders of nobility in the kingdom, or state from which he come, he shall, in addition to the above requisite make an express renunciation of his title or order of nobility in the court to which his application shall be made, which renunciation shall be recorded in the said court; *Provided*, That no alien who shall be a native citizen, denizen or subject of any country, state or sovereign, with whom the United States shall be at war, at the time of his application, shall be then admitted to be a citizen of the U. States: *Provided also*, That any alien who was residing within the limits, and under the jurisdiction of the U. S. before the 29th day of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, may be admitted to become a citizen, on due proof made to some one of the courts aforesaid, that he has resided two years, at least, within and under the jurisdiction of the United States, and one year at least, immediately preceding his application, within the state or territory where such court is, at the time held, and on his declaring on oath or affirmation, that he will support the constitution of the United States, and that he doth absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty whatever, and particularly, by name, the prince, potentate, state or sovereignty, whereof he was before a citizen or subject; and moreover on its appearing to the satisfaction of the court, that during the said term of two years, he has behaved as a man of good moral character, attached to the constitution of the United States, and well disposed to the good order and happiness of the same; and where the alien, applying for admission to citizenship, shall have borne any hereditary title, or been of any of the orders of nobility in the kingdom or state from which he came; on his moreover making in the court an express renunciation of his title or order of nobility, before he shall be entitled to such admission: all of which proceedings, required in this proviso to be performed in the court, shall be recorded by the clerk thereof: and provided also, that any alien who was residing within the limits, and under the jurisdiction of the United States at any time between the said 29th day of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five, and the 18th day of June, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, may, within two years after the passing of this act, be admitted to become a citizen, without a compliance with the first condition above specified.

Sec. 5. *Provided also, and be it further enacted*, That in addition to the directions aforesaid, all free white persons, being aliens, who may arrive in the United States after the passing of this act, shall, in