

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, D E C E M B E R 30, 1802.

BERNE, October 18.

THE senate has returned to this city. It was received amidst the discharge of artillery. In its progress from Lausanne to Berne it experienced no obstacles.

The constitutional authorities are resuming their functions, and the cantons nominating their deputies to Paris. After some long debates the diet of Schwitz has dissolved itself. The insurgent troops are disbanding and returning to their respective cantons. Their retreat and disbanding are effected in the greatest order; some incendiaries, however, continue united in the mountains.

The French minister accompanied the senate in its return. There was no other diplomatic agent in Switzerland, because France was the only power which had acknowledged our republic; and, hence it was from her alone that we could hope for a generous intervention to prevent the inevitable disasters which threatened us.

LONDON, October 26.

Yesterday was the day appointed for the reduction of the guards; but the orders to that effect were countermanded; a significant hint of the fears government entertain of a war.

By private letters from Malta, of the 14th ult. we learn, that his majesty's ship Hector arrived there from Corfu, on the 13th ult. having relieved the Agincourt about two months before; that the Russians had arrived at Corfu; that admiral Sir R. Bickerton was to hoist his flag on board a frigate; that the Braffel and Pegasus were ordered for Egypt, and the Cyclops on a cruise after the frigate that was to receive admiral Sir R. Bickerton's flag; and that upon the arrival of the Liberty brig from England the ships were ordered to sea at a minute's notice.

The Moniteur has at length broken the silent silence it has so long preserved upon the affairs of Switzerland; and the first use it makes of its speech, is to insult the patriots, and calumniate their leaders; men, whose names are coeval with the rocks of Switzerland, and whose ancestors were the glory and ornament of their country ages before the name of Buonaparte was heard of.

The patriots, our private correspondent informs us, have been forced to submit. Rapp has written a letter to the lady-mann Dolder, announcing that all the articles of the consular proclamation have been acceded to by the diet, and that in consequence the troops are to be disbanded, and the insurrectional authorities to be dissolved. He is himself gone to Berne to pave the way for the return of the senate, who had not left Lausanne on the 15th. Some corps of reserve which had been assembled by the senate, have been dismissed, with thanks, to their homes.

The article in the Moniteur is dated from Berne; but was probably written from Paris. It announces that deputies from all parts of Switzerland are going to Paris; that the assemblies have been dispersed; the senate about to leave Lausanne; and that citizen Rapp's presence had calmed all alarms. The sentiments of the whole-Helvetic people are asserted to be comprised in three wishes: 1. To have a constitution, which shall prevent the re-appearance of oligarchy, and establish the equality of the people, the cantons, and the different religions. 2. A constitution adapted to the diversity and inequalities of the Swiss territory. And 3, a wish, which, it is added, is not less national than the other two, to maintain, in all their integrity, the ancient relations with France, and to deprive of all influence, the men who are in the pay of foreign powers. "The true interests of Switzerland is to remain neuter; it will never be the interests of Bachmanns and Watervilles, who, from their cradles, have been the instruments of those hostile to France." A grosser calumny never, we believe, was uttered. But the main point and object of the article seems to be, to warn the cantons of what they may expect, if they accept the assistance of foreign powers. "The Swiss united to foreign force might," it is confessed, "protect with some success, the tops of their mountains; but they could not defend their plains and their cities against the French."

After hinting that Switzerland may not be able to remain neuter in future wars, and that then the alliance with France will be the true interest of the Swiss, the article concludes with asserting, "that the rallying cry of the whole nation is equality between the cantons, the independence of Helvetia, and concert with the French republic." This may be the rallying cry of the French party; but there is not, we will venture to say, a man in Switzerland, who is not well convinced, by experience, that concert with the French republic may be fatal to the independence of Helvetia.

The French funds are rather low.

October 29.

We have been informed that every officer whose regiment is either in Egypt or Malta, who is in this country on leave of absence, has been ordered to join his corps with all possible speed: Admiral Bickerton has sailed from Gibraltar for the Mediterranean, and it is believed the ships fitting out at home are destined to reinforce him. This is a very commendable vigilance in the navy department. The French ports are known to be extremely active. At Toulon a squadron has been for sometime fitting out, and troops are said to have been shipped from the Isle of Elbe in transports which are to be convoyed by that squadron. Where is it going? It has been supposed to Constantinople and the Black Sea; an idle supposition. Where is the necessity for sending troops or men of war thither? There is no hostile power in that quarter, and no garrison to receive the troops. Intelligence from Brest asserts, that every dock is occupied at Brest, and a 74 building on the strand; at L'Orient eight ships of the line are building, and others repairing; at Havre, at Cherbourg, at Marseilles, the same activity prevails. The intended journey of the first consul is connected with these preparations. Undoubtedly the object of the journey must be important, which takes him from Paris at this time, and in this state of affairs. He will probably visit all the ports of the western coast of France, not only Havre and Cherbourg, but Brest and Bourdeaux. The knowledge of these preparations has given rise to very warlike rumours at Paris.

On our side the different ports have assumed a more active appearance. On Wednesday orders were received at Plymouth, to get the Imogen ready to sail with all possible speed with dispatches. The Lady Hobart packet sailed on Tuesday evening, from Falmouth, with sealed orders, which are not to be opened till her arrival at Barbadoes. Sealed orders are also to be forwarded immediately by the Princess Amelia packet, which are to be opened in a certain latitude. So urgent were the directions, that the packets which sailed on Tuesday put to sea though the wind was quite contrary. All the packets at Falmouth are to be got ready to sail at two hours notice.

A messenger sailed yesterday from Harwich for Cruxhaven. He is supposed to be going to Peterburg.

We have received further accounts from Gibraltar, and they are interesting. The men of war which had been so much damaged by the thunder storm, mentioned in our last letters from that quarter, were repaired with wonderful expedition. The repairs were badly completed when they were ordered up the Mediterranean; on dispatches to that effect having been received from admiral Sir Richard Bickerton.

Various opinions are entertained at Gibraltar respecting the cause of this sudden sailing of the squadron; but the predominating one is, that Sir Richard's squadron, thus reinforced, was destined to watch the motions of the French armament at Toulon, which was first assembled under the pretence of attacking Algiers, but which, notwithstanding the differences between France and that state have been adjusted, appears still to be increasing.

Reinforcements continue to be prepared and forwarded to the Mediterranean. General Oakes is just appointed commander in chief of all our troops in that sea, and the duke of York is busily engaged every day at the Horse Guards.

November 4.

As the affairs of the Swiss cantons are becoming every day more serious, it will not be uninteresting to the public to be better acquainted with the character of the person who is the leader of those brave men, who are now endeavouring to recover their liberties, and to free Switzerland from abject dependence on a foreign power.

Aloys Reding, the valiant chief of the independent cantons, studied the art of war in the service of Spain, in which he attained the rank of colonel. A short time previous to the revolution he had retired into the solitary valleys of his native country, and devoted his leisure to friendship, to the Muses, and to the cultivation of his lands. He had long wished for an amelioration of the federal system; and that his country should enjoy useful and true liberty; but his heart revolted at the idea of a revolution effected by a foreign power, and at the still more abhorrent idea of seeing his country fall under the dominion of France.

Such are the motives which induced him to resume the sword, and to show himself worthy of the Helvetian name, and of his brave ancestors. The loss of a young wife, whom he tenderly loved, had left a profound melancholy on his mind, which made him, perhaps, more eager to seek the perils of battle. Warmly loyal, brave, attached to his country, and possessing great coolness in prosperity as well as ad-

versity, he became in a short time, the favourite and hope of the people.

From the bravery and skill with which Aloys Reding defended his country when the French first invaded Switzerland, we may judge what he is now capable of performing should they return. With a few hundred men he repeatedly routed a whole army; and was at last obliged to yield to terms only by the treachery of priests, and a constant diminution of his numbers. Like Leonidas of old, waiting a certain and glorious end at the pass of Thermopylae; such was Reding, at the head of his troops on the famous heights of Morgarten. Upon this occasion he made the following remarkable speech to his soldiers; of which the authenticity is considered unquestionable.

"Brave comrades, beloved fellow-citizens. The decisive moment is now arrived. Surrounded by enemies, and deserted by our friends, it only remains to know if we will courageously imitate the example formerly set by our ancestors at Morgarten. An almost certain death awaits us. If any one fears it, let him retire; we will not reproach him. Let us not impose on each other at this solemn hour. I would rather have an hundred men, on whom I could depend, than five hundred, who, by flight, might occasion confusion, and, by a perfidious retreat, imolate the brave men who would still defend themselves. As to myself, I promise not to abandon you even in the greatest danger. Death, and no retreat. If you participate my resolution, let two men come out of your ranks, and swear to me in your name that you will be faithful to your promises."

The soldiers, leaning upon their arms, listened in silence, and with a religious awe, to the words of their chief; tears dropped down the cheeks of those manly warriors; and when Reding had done speaking, a thousand voices exclaimed, "We will partake your lot! we will never abandon you!" Then two men came out of each rank, and gave their hands to Reding, in token of fidelity in life and death. This treaty of alliance between the chief and his soldiers was sworn in open air, and in the face of Heaven; it bears marks of patriarchal manners, worthy of the golden age.

BOSTON, December 17.

Amsterdam papers to October 23, were received by the ship Pembroke, which arrived on Tuesday last. On the 13th of October the diet of the patriots of Switzerland adopted the articles prescribed by Buonaparte; but the first consul's proclamation had been treated with every indignity in the principal towns—A new plan of indemnities had been presented to the diet of Ratisbon, and accepted by a majority of the members. These two events appear to be favourable to the continuance of peace.

PHILADELPHIA, December 24.

Extract of a letter from London, of the 5th October, 1802.

"Some very important intrigues are carrying on between the first consul and our government, and as soon as general Andreassi arrives it is presumed the matter will be settled respecting New-Orleans. It is said the first consul, for the sum of ten million sterling, has offered it underhand to Great-Britain, and will guaranty it to them. I make no doubt the bargain will be struck:—Would it not have been a prudential caution in the executive of the United States, to have treated upon the business of the purchase of said province? particularly as it must have been known the great want the first consul is in of money, in my opinion the business might still be accomplished; England is by no means in want of the province, but rather than see it in the hands of France, they may probably purchase."

From the (N. Y.) Morning Chronicle.

"In consequence of the interference of the first consul with the regency of Tripoli in favour of Sweden, a treaty has been concluded between the pacha and the Swedish government. It does not, however, appear to be either advantageous or honourable, as this piratical power is fully acknowledged, and Sweden agrees to pay within six months, the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand piastres in specie, and a yearly tribute of eight thousand more."

It must be obvious to every person that many of the measures which the first consul of France has lately pursued, seriously interfere with the true interests of the United States. Was he really desirous of promoting the cause of freedom, we had a right to expect from him marks of attachment to a nation engaged in the same common cause, and having the same end in view—the real happiness of Society. On the contrary, we have received from him insults and injuries, where we might have looked for courtesy and friendship.