

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1775.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 5

THE Russian officers are released from the Seven Towers. The Turkish ambassador who is preparing to go to the court of Petersburg, will have a retinue of 1300 persons; and it is thought that prince Repsin, who is appointed ambassador to the court of Russia to the porte, will not be less numerous.

The grand signior has given orders to set at liberty all the slaves that have been made by the Tartars or the Turks during the war, and to pay the proprietors 200 piastres (20l.) for each slave. The empress of Russia has already restored 3000 Turkish prisoners, and has sent orders throughout her dominions to release all Turks that are in slavery there.

WARSAW, Dec. 7. Letters from Cracow mention that a large body of Prussian troops, with artillery, are in the environs of that place. Those from Lemberg mention, that a great number of the inhabitants of the provinces ceded to the court of Vienna have left their habitations, not being able to bear the new taxes laid upon them.

HAGUE, Dec. 20. M. Roffignol, consul from the republic in Barbary, has sent advice to the states general, that the king of Morocco haughtily refused and returned the presents their high mightinesses sent him; at the same time complaining that they made very light of his friendship, because he knew very well that they had sent more considerable presents to the little states of Algiers, Tunis and Tripoli, which in some degree, were dependent upon him; and therefore to shew his resentment of their behaviour, he had declared war against the republic.

HAGUE, Dec. 20. A treaty is now much talked of here, which has been kept very secret these four years. The treaty in question was concluded in 1771, between the house of Austria and the Ottoman Porte, by which the latter engaged to pay the former 20,000 purses of piastres, containing 500 piastres each, which makes a sum of 10,000,000 piastres. Four thousand purses were stipulated to be paid as soon as the treaty was signed, and the remaining 16,000 at two equal payments at four months distance, and the Porte likewise agreed to give up part of Moldavia and Valachia, upon the confines of the grand duchy of Transylvania and the Banat of Temeswar. In return, the house of Austria engaged to maintain a considerable army upon the Frontiers (as she has actually done); to the great astonishment of all the world) and to recover all that the Porte should lose during the war with Russia, &c.

OFORTO, in Portugal Dec. 26. On Sunday last this river rose fifteen feet perpendicular in about seven hours, filling the streets near the quays; many ware-houses were thrown down, pipes of wine and various other merchandises were carried away, and in some places the inhabitants had but just time to escape at the tops of their houses.

At night the following ships were driven over the bar, viz. George, Madgion from Carolina, Amelia, Stevenson, from Quebec.

LONDON, Dec. 26.

The number of expresses from the continent, and the frequent and long consultations of the cabinet council give room for various conjectures. That the American affairs are in great disorder cannot admit of a doubt; and that some black and very intricate intrigues are discovered to be now carrying on by some of our very near neighbours and pretended friends on the continent, seems to be no less certain; so that in all probability the peace of Europe will soon be disturbed by a very general war. That large additions will be immediately needed to our military forces is the unanimous opinion of people in power. Many schemes have been proposed for that purpose to do it with the least expence, and by such means as to drain the mother country the least of its useful hands. Among others it is thought advisable to avail ourselves of the assistance of that corps of British troops so long situated to its country, called the Scotch brigade, in the Dutch service; a corps long distinguished for its bravery and good behaviour; and which having been for some years past ill requited, and even very unjustly and harshly treated by the Dutch, gives room to suppose that a call to serve its native country will not at all be disagreeable to it. It is pretended that the states of Holland can keep the men for their term of six years, but as the British subjects among the private men are now mostly old and unfit for service; these cannot be great, most of the officers will cheerfully accept of the invitation, and they will soon form men fit for service. This corps consists of six battalions, which if formed into six regiments on the British establishment, would make a corps of about five thousand men. The scheme proposed is; that all the officers and under officers be British, also half of the private men of each company, the other half to be foreigners; great plenty of whom these officers will get of good men, Hanoverians, Hessians, Palatines, and others, German protestants. Such a corps kept always on foot in America, must be of the highest advantage to the crown; for although matters may happen to be settled in America without coming to open force, which there is at present unhappily little appearance of, yet it seems to be the determined plan of administration always to have a considerable standing force on that continent; and it is thought this corps will be very proper for such a service, and after being once formed, can easily be kept up.

We are assured from the best authority, that a list of the names of all such merchants and traders as refuse to unite in adopting immediate measures for the restoration

of union and commerce between this kingdom and America, will be expeditiously transmitted thither, and printed in all the North-American newspapers.

We are informed there is now living in Cheshire-court, Rotherhithe, one William Daly, who has for many years been employed as a carman; he is about 100 years old, has been married to eight wives, who bore 37 sons and nine daughters, the youngest of whom is now turned of twenty years of age.

Dec. 24. We hear that a subscription is soon to be opened under a very respectable patronage, for the inhabitants of Boston, who are bravely suffering all the rigours of a siege, in opposition to arbitrary power.

Yesterday his majesty went to the house of peers, and gave the royal assent to the bill for allowing the exportation of Indian corn, and the bill for continuing the duties on malt, mum, cyder, &c.

After which the lords adjourned to Friday, the 20th of January.

An effeminate macaroni of distinction a few evenings ago picked up a very smart girl, and went home with her to her lodgings; after some time, the lady proposed to dress herself in his cloaths, which were very rich, and his sword, and that he should dress in her's. He agreed to it, and she, when dressed, looked much more like a man than he did, and he very like a woman. They thus agreed to go to the play together, where having been a short time, to avoid giving any suspicion to the company in the same box, she went out under pretence of fetching him some capillaire, and immediately decamped. The poor macaroni in petticoats, was then under the necessity of marching home, and was some time in persuading the servants, that he was their master, before they would admit him.

On Thursday last a copy of the petition from the American congress to the king was delivered to Lord Dartmouth for the purpose of shewing it to his Majesty before it is presented to him by the agents. It contains a state of grievances, a solicitation for the removal of evil counsellors, and a claim that the colonies are exempt from taxation by the British parliament.

Dec. 26. It seems to be the opinion of all real lovers of their country, that nothing will heal the unhappy divisions between this country and America, but calling forth Lord Chatham and his friends, who, having equally the confidence of both countries, are most likely to reconcile them.

Some papers belonging to Madam Barre have been lately discovered in an apartment at the palace at Versailles, which will certainly be the cause of her imprisonment for life. It is rather unfortunate that a discovery of this kind should be made at a time when means were contriving for her enlargement.

Positive orders, we hear, have lately been transmitted to the commanders of the several men of war on the North-American station, to be extremely vigilant in their duty against smugglers, and to seize all such goods and merchandise, which, by the laws of trade, ought to be exported directly from Great-Britain to the colonies.

Two great state officers, it is confidently reported in the neighbourhood of St. James's, will resign their several departments before the expiration of the holidays.

We hear that the society for the relief of debtors have compounded the debts of, and discharged 2539 debtors, chiefly manufacturers, seamen, servants, and labourers, with large families, from the several prisons of this kingdom.

Dec. 27. An express arrived this day from Spain, with an account that the king of Spain had retired from the sovereignty, and that the prince of Asturias has assumed the reins of government.

Dec. 29. Some differences respecting matters of trade, have lately happened between the Dutch, and the Portuguese, two of the latter of whose ships attempting to search a vessel belonging to the subjects of the states general; a running fight ensued, in which both the Dutch and Portuguese had several men killed and wounded.

It is whispered at the west end of the town that the troops will shortly be recalled from Boston.

Dec. 30. A change of administration was very considerably talked of yesterday at the west end of the town.

The office of secretary of state for the plantations, it is affirmed, will be abolished, and the affairs of trade and the colonies to be regulated upon an entire new plan.

It is said that Lord Chatham has, within these few days, received a very pressing invitation from a great personage, by which it is imagined some extraordinary measures respecting the Americans are in agitation.

Letters from Cadiz mention, that the fleets of the emperor of Morocco and the rest of the Barbary states, are become so powerful in the Mediterranean, that the Spanish ships are often obliged to take shelter at Gibraltar and Mahon.

Dec. 31. They write from Cadiz, that four regiments of Spanish troops are expected there, to embark on board some men of war going to Africa, in order to attempt something against the Moors, who, it is said, had blocked up Ceuta with 50,000 men.

A petition from the American congress to the king, was presented to his Majesty by Lord Dartmouth. The above petition is to be laid before both houses of parliament at their next meeting.

Jan. 1. It is thought by the most judicious politicians that the spirited opposition of the Americans will occasion more embarrassment to the ministry than any set of men in power have experienced since the Duke of Graton's spirited desertion.

It has transpired that in consequence of several councils which have been lately held, the resolution of the cabi-

net is to recall the troops and open the port of Boston. If there is any stress to be laid on this intelligence, it will scarcely happen that so total a change of measures should be adopted without including a change of ministers.

It is very currently reported, that several members of administration have publicly declared they will not any farther accede to violent measures with the Americans.

Letters from the continent mention, that something is actually fermenting among the princes of the German empire: The king of Prussia's sub-delegate at the chamber of visitation at Wetzlar has been grossly affronted at that commission which affronts the king will not give up without having full satisfaction.

It is said that a plan is now agitating in the cabinet to conciliate matters between the warring country and the Americans, by repealing the disagreeable acts, and admitting them to be represented, by eighty members in the house of commons.

The unanimity of the American congress, the moderation of their demands, and the firmness of their resolves, have confounded the ministry, and struck their advocates dumb. The wretches who have been constantly representing the opposition in America as a contemptible faction, aiming at a dissolution of all dependence on this country, and the destruction of the acts of trade and navigation, are now discovered to be false and malicious incendiaries.

Jan. 5. We have the pleasure to hear, that repealing the American acts is a measure determined on in the cabinet.

It is reported that two noblemen of distinguished abilities will speedily embark for America, by commission, in order to enquire into the grievances complained of, and on other matters of consequence.

Jan. 12. Lord Chatham is with Earl Temple at his seat at Stow, where, it is reported, those two patriotic noblemen are preparing the plan of a reconciliation with America.

The greatest part of the military, we are told, will soon be removed from the province of Massachusetts Bay, and the blockade by sea is to be continued, with the addition of more shipping.

Whispers at the west end of the town suggest, that there are very great divisions in the councils convened to determine upon what measures are best to be taken with the Americans; and every day plunges the premier into fresh difficulties.

Dec. 26, Jan. 11. Imported here this week, 15,167 bushels of wheat, and 1803 barrels of flour from New-York—1328 bushels of barley, and 1040 bushels of oats from Ireland.

This is to give notice to all merchants, traders and others interested in the American trade, that a general meeting is intended to be held in the Guildhall on Friday next, the 13th inst. precisely at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, to deliberate upon the present situation of American affairs; and to consider of a petition to parliament upon that subject. When and where it is earnestly requested every person concerned will attend.

Wednesday the society of merchant adventurers in this city had a meeting at their hall to consider of a petition to parliament, respecting the American affairs; the heads of a petition were then read, and the several parts thereof discussed, but another meeting is appointed to be held on Monday next, to determine the question.

Yesterday there was also a very respectable meeting of merchants, traders, and others interested in the American trade, at the Guildhall, for the purpose of petitioning parliament, relative to the many and great hardships likely to ensue to the commercial and trading interest of the kingdom, from the present differences between Great Britain and her colonies. Mr. Hayes an eminent merchant was placed in the chair, when a petition that was previously prepared, was read. Some few amendments were at first proposed, but at length it was unanimously approved of, and will be left for a few days at some public places for those who choose to subscribe it. We think the inhabitants of this city, who have any dependence on the American trade, cannot sufficiently express their acknowledgements to Messrs. Hayes and Mallard, for the great pains they have taken in forming and forwarding a petition to parliament, for the conciliating of measures between Great-Britain and the colonies.

The resolutions of the Americans relative to their exporting nothing from thence to England, will affect government more than may be generally imagined. Even in the article of tobacco they will sustain a vast loss; for the duty on that commodity only, for the present year, it seems, amounts to upwards of 20,000 l.

Extract of a letter from Barbados, Nov. 7.

“Every week brings us more and more disagreeable accounts from the inhabitants of North America who have threatened to withhold every kind of assistance from the British West-India colonies, unless the acts of parliament which they are so much enraged at should be repealed. Should this be the case, it will be a fatal stroke to the islands; for suffer me to tell you, my friend, that we can live much better without England than North-America, for from the former we have the luxuries, but from the latter the necessaries of life.”

By a private letter from Leeds, read on Wednesday last at the King's Arms tavern, Cornhill, it appears that in consequence of the non-importation article entered into by the Americans, the manufacturers in that town from a state of ease and convenience, are reduced to the greatest want, misery, and distress, and that two year revenue of the corporation would be insufficient to repair the losses they have already sustained. And the writer concludes, that if some of the great men in power