

[XXXVth Year.]

THE

[No. 1765.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

F R I D A Y, NOVEMBER 10, 1780.

P A R I S, July 31.

It is now generally agreed on, that the count d'Estaing is gone towards Cadiz, to take the command of the combined fleet; some assert positively, that he is going to America with 12 ships, which have sailed from Brest and Cadiz, and that the Spanish fleet, consisting of 24 or 25 sail, will be joined by seven or eight more, under the orders of M. DuRoi, who will command the whole, it being not in the least probable that it should be under a Spanish commander, especially if a descent on England is intended; at least, the public are in hopes so much expence, and such formidable preparations, will not be useless.

COPENHAGEN, July 17.

The dispatches brought here by the last courier from Petersburg, are kept very secret, and conferences are held daily between the Russian minister and our ministry; from whence it is concluded, that the affairs of the greatest importance are on the carpet. Orders have been dispatched to our ministers residing at the court of London, Versailles and Madrid, to make a declaration there similar to that which has been communicated by the court of Petersburg.

L O N D O N, July 13.

Government has issued proper notices to all the American refugees belonging to the province of South-Carolina to hold themselves in readiness to depart for that colony, it being declared to be in the king's peace.

July 27. Yesterday at noon dispatches were forwarded to Plymouth, to be sent from thence to Admiral Geary, acquainting him that a convoy of Dutch ships are expected at Brest about the first of next month, and also with private informations concerning the sailing of a fleet of transports from Havre, with near 5000 men on board.

Lord North it seems, has offered to grant the East-India company's renewal of their charter for 21 years, on condition of the company advancing the sum of 2,000,000. sterling towards the supplies for next year.

July 31. Two different squadrons are ordered to be fitted out, one at Plymouth, of four sail of the line and frigates; the other at Spithead, of eight sail of the line. On what expedition they are intended it is difficult to guess, or whether they are designed for reinforcements to certain stations.

August 2. They write from Copenhagen, that an edict of his Danish majesty is just issued, proclaiming liberty to all the subjects of that crown to trade on their own account to the four quarters of the globe, Europe, Asia, Africa and America, and that in consequence of this some new commercial companies and societies are forming.

August 4. Yesterday general Prevost, lately arrived in town from Georgia, was at court for the first time since his arrival. He was introduced to his majesty by the lord in waiting, and graciously received.

The following is (very nearly at least) the real state of the European navies now on foot; Great-Britain 98 sail of the line, France 72, Spain 46, Portugal 5, Holland 23, Russia 26, Sweden 12, Denmark 11, the smaller vessels are not so easily ascertained, but may be rated proportionably.

August 16. Administration it is said are determined to defend the honour of the British flag, and the superiority of the seas: in consequence of which a sufficient fleet is ordered to rendezvous at Spithead, and watch the motions of the neutral ships, without detaching admiral Geary from the important service on which he is engaged before Brest.

August 17. The empress of Russia has made a present to the emperor of Germany, of a ship of the line and four frigates, in order to make his imperial majesty a maritime power, and from the assistance of his name, to give a further colour to the northern marine confederacy. The emperor has ordered his new fleet to rendezvous at Ostend, a port of his royal mother's, having no one of his own that will admit the smallest cutter in the British service.

August 18. A very strong memorial was dispatched yesterday to Mr. Harris, our envoy at Petersburg, to be presented without a moment's delay to the empress, in consequence of the present hostile appearance of the Russian flag in the British channel, while the two nations reciprocally profess the most perfect amity towards each other.

F I S H - K I L L, O B. 26.

Extra of a letter from an officer of distinction, dated Cagnewaga, October 20.

General Van Rensselaer with the militia, and levies under colonel Du Bois, engaged the enemy under sir John Johnston yesterday evening, at Fox's mills, Tryon county; and, after a very severe action of three quarters of an hour, forced them to give way and cross the river, leaving their plunder, baggage and prisoners behind them;—an hour's light would have given us the whole party. The action was general and vigorous. Colonel Brown was killed in skirmishing in the fore part of the day. The country is desolated from fort Hunter up to Stone-Arabia, and a part of it—the grain and forage, all destroyed. His excellency the governor was at the time of the action at this place, forcing a march, with a considerable force, to join general Van Rensselaer in pursuing the enemy, who must in all probability, fall into our hands.

The above party likewise destroyed Schoharie on the 7th instant. The inhabitants got in the forts, who, with the garrisons, are safe.

R I C H M O N D, O B. 25.

Extra of a letter from general Davidson, dated camp, Rocky river, O B. 13, 1780.

We have a report by a man of veracity just arrived from within six miles, that the enemy have evacuated Charlotte; and that last night at 10 o'clock, the rear of the army passed Barnett's creeks, five miles beyond Charlotte, on the road to Beggars ferry.

O C T O B E R 13, 7 o'clock.

S I R,

THIS moment Mr. McCafferty is come to me, and informs that the rear of the enemy left Charlotte at 4 o'clock last evening, that he went with them to Barnett's creeks, five miles below town, on the road to Armon's ford.

Extra of a letter from general Sumner, dated October 13, 9 o'clock in the evening, camp, Yadin ford.

S I R,

About an hour ago I received the enclosed by express from general Davidson, of the enemy's retreat from Charlotte, towards Beggars ferry, on Catawba river. I shall immediately march after the enemy so as to annoy them as much as possible. Colonel Morgan arrived in camp, about two o'clock this afternoon, with his troops.

Major-general Gates.

Extra of a letter from general Davidson, dated at camp, M'Cans (Alexanders) O B. 14, 1780.

Last evening I marched to Charlotte with the remainder of the cavalry, and by the latest intelligence, the enemy were on the way to Nation ford. Colonel Davie was unfortunate enough not to hear of their movements till 4 o'clock last evening; he is now in pursuit with all the cavalry, except 3 troops. The cavalry left town last Wednesday, and no certain account of their return. The enemy seem to have gone off with an alarm; from what circumstance is uncertain. The inhabitants of the town say, they left their kettles on the fire, and twenty waggons which they left five miles from town, with a quantity of valuable loading, have fallen into our hands. Express this moment arrived from colonel Davie, informs that the main body of the enemy laid last night eleven miles from town, on the road to Nation ford, I propose to march downwards to day.

Extra of a letter from general Harrington to the board of war of the State of North-Carolina, dated camp, Cross creek, O B. 15.

I have the satisfaction to assure the board, that the enemy's retreat was so precipitate, that they did not take time to burn any houses on their departure; and by that hurry, all the mills

on Pedee have been preserved from destruction. Colonel Brown informs me that a person lately from Georgia, confidently asserts, that 6000 French have landed at Sunbury; and I have accounts from the different parts of South-Carolina to the same purpose, but without the least mention of Bethie's 1000 British being gone from Charlotte-town. Colonel Donoldson also writes, that a person I am acquainted with has just returned to Pedee from the Two Sitters on Savannah river, and brings certain accounts that a colonel Clarke, after two days trial, had taken Augusta, and made prisoners colonel Thomas Brown, some other British officers, a few regulars, and some Indians. The same person says, it was generally believed on that part of Savannah, that the French and Spanish had actually landed 7000 at Sunbury, and that to his own knowledge many families, friends to government, had moved to the north-east side of the river from Georgia. He asserts, that he was assured governor Wright had impressed a great number of negroes, to repair the redoubts and other works round Savannah town, and that to his own knowledge people were generally alarmed, and salt sold for a guinea a bushel. He farther adds, that the Vigilant is taken, and that two British frigates have been taken off the bar of Charles-town. As soon as I can learn a confirmation of this most interesting intelligence, I shall do myself the pleasure of communicating it to you. By a person from Camden, who left it last Monday, I learn that there were not any troops in that place, and that our people who were prisoners, were allowed only two ounces of bread and four of meat per day.

Extra of a letter from Hillsborough, October 16, 1780.

Colonel Clarke with a body of South-Carolinians, have surprised and taken Augusta. At the very instant the commandant was holding a treaty with the South-Indians. Colonel Clarke defeated the British and Indians, and loaded 300 horses with the goods and presents collected at that post. Colonel M'Dowell, who brought me this intelligence, says, he has seen several of the men who were in the action, and who have returned into his neighbourhood with a share of the plunder.

Passages in some intercepted letters from lord Cornwallis and other British officers confirm (information otherwise received) that Georgetown in South-Carolina has been taken by an American party, in which occasion the enemy are said to have suffered considerably.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, O B. 23.

Yesterday morning arrived the privateer brig Ariel, captain Lawler. On the 30th of September captain Lawler took the ship Susanna, commanded by George Parker, from Corke, bound to Charles-town, with a valuable assorted cargo of provisions, &c. The 12th instant spoke with a prize to the Holker privateer, from Plymouth, laden with wine and cordage, who informed captain Lawler, that two days before her capture the Fair American and Holker had taken a brig from Liverpool, with dry goods, which, from circumstances, we have reason to hear from hourly. The Susanna is arrived at Newcastle, and expected up every tide.

We hear from New-York, that several of the officers of the Guadeloupe and Trident frigates, who lately arrived at New-York, are exceedingly clamorous and dissatisfied with their commanding officers, for declining to engage two of our frigates (the Trumbull and Deane). They publicly declare, that they were to windward of our frigates, and at one time within musket shot of them; and that the American ships, instead of attempting to get out of their way, made every preparation for engaging. It is expected one or both of their commanders will be called to account for their dastardly behaviour on this occasion.

Twenty French line of battle ships lately returned to Cape Francois, having conveyed the homeward bound West-India fleet into a proper latitude.

Lately departed this life, in Berkly county, Virginia, Mr. Robert Gates, only son of major general Gates.