

[XXVth Year.]

T H E

[No. 1789.]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, A P R I L 26, 1781.

O S T E N D, November 26.

THE Hanover packet boat, which sailed on the 23d inst. from this port, with the mail from Dover, was soon after chased by a Dunkirk privateer and ran on shore between Dunkirk and Newport. The mail was thrown overboard, and is lost. Part of the crew saved themselves by means of their boat, and are arrived here; the rest were taken and conducted to Dunkirk, by a detachment of French dragoons.

B E R L I N, Nov. 28. Last week the king quitted his summer residence at Sanssouci, and resides now in his palace at Potsdam, from whence he is expected here in the course of next month. His majesty has appointed count Delus, to be his minister plenipotentiary at the court of London in the room of count de Maltzan, who has requested his recall.

B A M B U R G H, Nov. 28. M. de Grofs, the Russian resident, hath delivered to our regency, a copy of the treaty of alliance concluded between his court and that of Denmark, signed the 9th of July, and ratified on the 21st of the same month, old stile, at Peterburgh. At the bottom of this treaty is added the accession of the court of Sweden.

P A R I S, Nov. 26. By letters from Cadiz, of the 8th instant, we are informed, that count d'Estaing, on his sailing a second time from that port, on the 7th took with him eight new bomb vessels, and four fire ships, which circumstance has given rise to many conjectures of their being destined for a secret expedition.

The frigate l'Amazone, commanded by M. de la Pérouse, arrived at l'Orient the 23d inst. from Newport, in North, which place she left on the 26th of last month. The viscount de Rochambeau, who came on board the said frigate, with dispatches, but from the rank and character of the bearer, it is supposed, that they contain nothing disagreeable.

L O N D O N, December 16.

The Cerberus frigate saw the combined fleets the first of December, and counted them four flags, forty sail of the line, and upwards of 1000 sail of shipping, under convoy, which seemed standing under an easy sail for Rochford, Nantes, &c.

The Dutch ambassador was not yesterday at court, but it is said he has not yet received his letters of recall.

Almost every ship that lay for sale, or lay idle in the Thames, was bought up yesterday, men instantly employed to fit them out, and make them ready, with all possible dispatch in expectation to act as letters of marque and privateers against the ships and vessels of the United States.

Sir Joseph Yorke is not immediately expected in England, but we can assure our readers, that he has left the Hague, and is to wait upon the continent with the future directions of government.

Great expectations are raised; that Sir Joseph Yorke on his arrival in England, will be appointed secretary of state, as he is undoubtedly one of the ablest and most experienced ministers employed in his majesty's service.

Several letters received by the Dutch mail advise, that Sir Joseph Yorke's last spirited memorial had seemingly involved the states general in great difficulty and confusion.

It is said a prohibition will be issued against the Dutch selling out of our funds, on occasion of the approaching war, but the interest will be paid as usual.

Exprefses have been sent to every port in Great-Britain and Ireland, to stop all

the Dutch ships that may be found in their harbours.

Yesterday draughts were made out of the first regiment of guards for America; several turned out volunteers from each company, and are to be ready for embarkation on Christmas-day.

Yesterday advice was received that ten Dutch ships sailed from the Texel the 20th instant, for France, laden with stores; but two days after they fell in with two of his majesty's frigates, who took four of them, the other six escaped and put back to the Texel.

S A L E M, (New-England) March 27.

Last Friday arrived at a sea-port, a packet from Jamaica, bound to London, captured by the ship Thorn, who engaged her two gallees, during which the packet had four men killed and fourteen wounded. The Thorn had not a single man hurt. We are in hopes before our next, to have the papers that came in the packet; in one of them we learn is the following paragraph:

"We are sorry to acquaint our readers, the French squadron was in sight of and were pursuing the Corke fleet consisting of 100 sail; which intelligence came by a vessel just arrived at Port-Royal, and made her escape from them."

B O S T O N, April 2.

Last Thursday there was information of a privateer sloop, mounting 12 four pounders, belonging to the enemies of the states, being in the harbour of Cape-Cod, when by the peculiar and spirited exertions of capt. Smith of Philadelphia, commander of a brigantine now in this port, who, by the common modes of preparations could not be fit for sea in six days, was actually under way in as many hours, when an unfortunate casualty of carrying away his fore-top-gallant-mast and jib-boom, prevented the pursuit, which we doubt not would have ended for the honour of the active sea-officer.

Many merchants of the town have expressed their warmest attachment to his conduct, which evidently shews that the honour of the flag and the protection of trade were the sole motives of his exertions.

The Brutus and Neptune privateers of Salem, went in quest of the above sloop; and yesterday the Brutus returned into port with her, the Neptune being left to cruise for her consort, a brig of 14 guns, which was hourly expected at Cape-Cod.

April 5. Nothing can be more evident than the warm disposition of our allies effectually to aid the cause of America: The late expeditions from Rhode-Island are fresh and strong proofs of such a disposition. It discovered no small spirit in the French commander to make two enterprises for the succour of Virginia, in the face of a superior British squadron; in the naval action which ensued upon the last, great honour was reflected upon the arms of France: though the British squadron was superior by 28 guns, yet the advantage was clearly on the side of the French; and indeed the whole conduct of our allies through the war, convinces us of the folly of our former prejudices respecting the vast superiority of the skill and prowess of the Britons in comparison with the French.

An officer of reputation in the American army, who was on board the French fleet in the late action, and an eye witness to the whole, speaks in the highest terms of the coolness, intrepidity and good conduct of the chevalier Desbouché

and his whole squadron. Their superiority, he says, in the engagement was undeniably evident; and the conduct of the British squadron, while in action, and when they retired, were but ill adapted to support the vaunts of that nation.

P R O V I D E N C E, March 31.

By the western post we learn, that a vessel arrived at New-London, a few days since, and brought an account that the British have taken the Dutch settlement of Demarara, to leeward of Surinam, where about 50 sail of vessels fell into their hands, some of them Americans.

N E W - L O N D O N, April 6.

We hear that two British men of war have arrived at New York from Chesapeake bay in so shattered a condition that they could barely keep above water, owing to the damage they received in the late action.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in the western part of this state to his friend near this town.

"The British government of New-York have issued proclamations, offering the refugees there to supply them with armed boats, provisions, and warlike stores, all at free cost, to go and plunder on the rebel shores (as they call them) and to cruise in the rivers, to distress the persons who live near the water. This is a late resolution at New-York. It is said near 200 boats are collected at Hunting-bay, and that many people are removing their effects from the towns on the sound."

P H I L A D E L P H I A, April 17.

Extract of a letter from Boston, dated April 5, 1781.

"Yesterday a vessel was condemned in our court of admiralty, brought in here by an armed ship of the state, covered with clearances for Bermudaa. Another vessel that had been upon a trading voyage to that place with masts and spars, and brought back English goods, was also condemned for the use of the state. These instances give no little pleasure among all good citizens. A merchant of reputation in this town went openly and gave the information against the last, and there is in the whole government and in the body of the people a disposition to check such pernicious and dishonourable methods of trade."

By his EXCELLENCY,

T H O M A S S I M L E E, Esq,
Governor of the state of Maryland,

A P R O C L A M A T I O N.

WHEREAS the house of senate stands adjourned to the first Monday in August next, and the house of delegates to the first day of May next, and affairs of great importance requiring the immediate consideration of the General Assembly, I have thought proper, that the General Assembly of this state should meet on the tenth day of May next; and do therefore, in virtue of the power with which I am invested by the constitution and form of government, hereby appoint the said tenth day of May for the meeting and holding the General Assembly; of which the several sheriffs of this state are hereby enjoined to give public and due notice.

GIVEN at Annapolis, this twenty-third day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one; and in the sixth year of our INDEPENDENCE.

T H O. S. LEE.

By his Excellency's command,

T. JOHNSON, jun. fecit.

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