

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, A U G U S T 15, 1782.

P A R I S, May 14.

THE count de Guichen is arrived at Cadix with nine ships of the line, and has joined the Spanish fleet, that consists of 24, and is going to put to sea. They have orders to go first, off Brest, to expel from thence, Kempenfelt, and from thence, steering northward, to drive back into their ports both Howe and Barrington; who, it is assured, are blocking up the Texel; they will then receive 30 Dutch ships of war, conformably to the agreement made between the prince of Orange and the duke de la Vauguyon. It is thought, that from these 63 ships united, three squadrons will be formed, viz. one third French, another third Spanish, and the other third Dutch, which will sweep from north to south, all the coasts of Norway, Germany, Holland, France, Spain, and Portugal.

May 16. It is generally believed, that the nephew of lord Grenville, who is here, is charged on the part of the court of London, to make overtures for a general pacification.

Letters from Bayonne, announce the arrival of a merchant fleet from Cape Francois, under convoy of a frigate. This little fleet of 13 ships have entered the passage.

May 18. Peace is much talked of; England seems to wish ardently for it. It is assured there is an English agent here, charged with a secret negotiation for that purpose.

AMSTERDAM, May 18. The last letters from Flushing advise, that the three ships of war, supposed to be destined for the Texel, were still in that port, the 16th of this month; and as the English fleet has left the station they had taken before the Texel, we are no longer uneasy about these ships, nor those that had not returned with vice-admiral count de Byland, which all arrived safe in the Vlie, the 16th of this month.

HAGUE, May 19. Their high mightinesses have resolved to grant a sum of 100,000 florins, for the relief of the Dutch prisoners in England; who are to have necessary cloathing, and also daily pay allowed them.

Last Thursday a courier extraordinary from the court of Petersburg arrived here, who after having delivered his dispatches to the prince de Galitzin, envoy extraordinary from the empress of all the Russias, continued his route for London.

May 20. It is assured the English offer a separate peace to France, thinking thereby to detach her from us. They make strong intercession with the court of Russia, and expresses are continually going and coming between Petersburg and London.

L O N D O N, April 16.

Were it possible says one of our papers to add the unpardonable negligence of the late ministry, it is their constant refusal to treat with the American commissioners in Europe, when administration were informed that those commissioners had powers for the purpose. Then advantages might have been obtained in favour of this country. But at present the commercial and political treaties have so strong an analogy to each other, that France and America are as it were one nation.

The report which has generally prevailed here, that the Americans and the French in America do not agree, is without foundation. Even our own papers admit, that never since the commencement of the war, has a more universal harmony reigned among them than at present; which is as great as it possibly can be.

May 14. The settlement of Columbo, which is the second on the island of Ceylon, and which it is hoped by this time is in possession of our forces, is one of the richest places on the globe. The Dutch, we are told, have often had ten millions of money deposited there.

May 15. Marshal Belleisle was the last French nobleman who was prisoner in this country; he was confined to the precinct of Windtor castle.

It is a matter of doubt with some people, whether count de Grasse will be sent to England by admiral Rodney, or whether he will be suffered to go immediately upon his parole to France from the West-Indies: We are however of opinion, that some of our late captured general officers having been suffered to proceed to England, without being carried as prisoners to France, that admiral Rodney will judge it most prudent to give de Grasse his parole immediately from the West-Indies to France.

May 18. Soon after the revolution in the ministry, Mr. Adams, lately acknowledged by the States General of the Netherlands, as minister plenipotentiary of America, communicated to our new rulers, and through the medium of a trusty messenger, that congress had deputed in Europe five commissioners to open and conclude a treaty of peace; that consequently their powers were most extensive; and that they were ready to use them, in case they should find in the new governors of this country, a disposition equally pacific. In consequence of that commission from Mr. Adams, the new administration consulted Mr. Laurens, one of the five commissioners, and immediately after the first conference on the subject, he was released from his parole, as well as his securities. They did more; though they did not immediately proceed to a general exchange of prisoners, earl Cornwallis was released from his parole, in consideration of the favour granted Mr. Laurens.

Mr. Oswald, one of Mr. Laurens's securities, was immediately sent to Versailles, to confer with the French ministry and Dr. Franklin. He had several other

audiences in the beginning of April, and availed himself of them to make proposals, which were better received, and procured more favourable answers than could be expected.

The courts of Madrid and the Hague were also visited for the same purpose, with similar propositions; and it was in that epocha that the known correspondence was opened between Mr. Fox and M. Simolin, and the Russian plenipotentiary at the Hague. It was then thought proper, under a plausible pretext to send to Paris the honourable Mr. T. Grenville, who is now there, continually receives and dispatches messengers, relative to that great affair.

The 12th inst. Mr. Laurens left England. He is supposed to be now near the place where the negotiations are to be decisive. It is said they are on the following terms:

All our islands, that of Grenada excepted, shall be restituted by France, which shall again be in possession of St. Lucia, Pondicherry, and all her other settlements in India.

Minorca to be ceded to Spain, who shall give us Porto Rico, renounce her pretensions to Jamaica, in consideration of which she shall be put in full possession of Gibraltar.

Florida to be ceded to the Americans. We shall restitute to the Dutch all their possessions taken during the war, and secure to them the exercise of a free and neutral trade, on the terms of the armed neutrality.

America will be granted her independency, and a general liberty of trade. England on her part will equally divide with her the fisheries of Newfoundland and New-England; preserve the peaceable possession of Canada to its old limits, and all the lands to the northward of that province. We shall, in consequence of this give up New-York to the Americans, and whatever we possess to the southward.

May 29. The king has created Sir George B. Rodney, baronet and knight of the bath, baron of the kingdom of Great-Britain, under the title of baron Rodney, of Rodney Stoke, in Somersetshire; and Sir F. S. Drake, baronet of Great-Britain; as also captain Edmund Affleck. The king has likewise created Sir Samuel Hood, baronet, an Irish peer, under the title of baron Hood, of Cathrington.

The kings of France and sardinia have sent troops to Geneva, to restore public tranquillity in that unfortunate republic; and at the same time took the most effectual steps to persuade the Helvetic body that it was not their intention to make any attempt on the independence of that city.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, August 3.

Yesterday morning the big Mercury, capt. Faris, arrived here from Bilbao, after a passage of 50 days. At the time of her sailing a large fleet of French and Spanish ships lay in the bay of Cadix, with a body of 8000 French and 22,000 Spanish troops, commanded by the duke de Crillon. This powerful armament was destined for a fresh attack upon Gibraltar, a new plan having been adopted for carrying on the siege of that fortress, which it was not doubted would finally be compelled to surrender.

The following is said to be a copy of an application from some persons in Savannah, to brigadier-general Wayne; and of his answer.

S I R,

AS there is reason to believe it is the intention of the British troops to evacuate the town and garrison of Savannah, we are deputed by different classes of the inhabitants to wait upon you, as the commander of the army, and also governor Martin, to know whether such of them as are inclined to remain will be protected in their persons and properties, and for more fully discussing this business, we are entrusted with the honour of requesting a conference.

We have the honour, &c. JNO. IRVINE, ANDREW McLEAN, JNO. WALLACE, HENRY KEALL, LD. CECILL.

G E N E R A L W A Y N E.

A N S W E R.

Should the garrison eventually effect an evacuation, the persons and properties of such inhabitants or others as chuse to remain in Savannah, shall be protected by the military, and resigned inviolate to the hands of the civil authority of this state, which must ultimately decide. Given at Head-Quarters, June 17, 1782.

A N N A P O L I S, August 15.

On Saturday last arrived in this city, on a visit to our governor, his excellency count Rochambeau, commander in chief of the auxiliary army in the United States, accompanied by count Dillon and several other French officers of distinction, and on Monday morning set out on his return to Baltimore.

T O H I S E X C E L L E N C Y

COUNT ROCHAMBEAU, Commander in chief of the auxiliary army in the United States.

The ADDRESS of the GOVERNOR and COUNCIL of the State of Maryland.

Annapolis, August 11, 1782.

S I R,

IT is with singular pleasure, that the executive of Maryland embraces the opportunity afforded, by your

arrival in this city, of offering your excellency every mark of esteem and respect.

Accept, sir, our warmest thanks for the distinguished part you sustained in the reduction of York; to the wisdom of your counsels, the vigour of your conduct, the bravery of the troops under your command, and to the judicious exertions of the gallant count de Grasse. The success obtained by the allied army is, in a great degree, to be attributed.

We are happy to assure your excellency, that the people of this state, deeply interested in every event which can promote the felicity of our illustrious monarch, or his kingdom, received with the most lively demonstrations of joy, the account of the birth of a dauphin: That the young prince may emulate the virtues, and inherit the dominions of his royal father, and that the union, founded on the most generous equality, and cemented by the blood of both nations, may endure for ever, is our fervent wish; the incidents of war have only more strongly united our affections, and, we doubt not, that the antient spirit of France with her numerous resources, will soon humble the pride of our common enemy.

The ready protection afforded by your excellency to the commerce of Maryland, demands our grateful acknowledgments; the decorum and exemplary discipline observed by your troops, on their march through the state, have given entire satisfaction to our citizens; our duty and inclination will prompt us to do every thing in our power for their convenience; and we request your excellency to communicate to the general and other officers of your army, the high estimate we entertain of their merit, and the affection and regard we have for their persons and characters.

In behalf of the executive, T H O. S. L E E.

To his excellency the GOVERNOR, and the honourable COUNCIL of the state of Maryland.

Annapolis, August 11, 1782.

I AM very sensible of the marks of friendship and affection that I receive from his excellency the governor and the honourable council of the state of Maryland.

If we have been happy enough to contribute towards the success of their arms, under our commander in chief his excellency general Washington, we receive the most flattering marks of approbation, by the very cordial reception the French army meet with from all the inhabitants of this state.

The great joy and interests they have been pleased to shew on account of the birth of the dauphin, will undoubtedly be very agreeable to the king my master; he will be equally flattered at the warmth with which the state of Maryland support their alliance, and wish it to be lasting.

The strict discipline of the troops, is the least mark of gratitude that we could give to a state from which we receive so many proofs of attachment and friendship.

I have the honour to be, your obedient and most humble servant,

LE COMTE de ROCHAMBEAU.

Copy of a letter from Sir Guy Carleton and admiral Digby, to general Washington, dated New-York, August 2, 1782, written in consequence of the retreats from England, and published at the request of the inhabitants of New-York.

S I R,

THE pacific disposition of the parliament and people of England towards the thirteen provinces, has already been communicated to you, and the resolutions of the house of commons of the 17th of February last, have been placed in your Excellency's hands, and intimations given at the same time, that further pacific measures were likely to follow; since which until the present time we have had no direct communications from England; but a mail is now arrived, which brings us very important information. We are acquainted, Sir, by authority, that negotiations for a general peace have already commenced at Paris, and that Mr. Grenville is invested with full powers to treat with all the parties at war, and is now in Paris in the execution of his commission. And we are further, Sir, made acquainted, that his majesty, in order to remove all obstacles to that peace which he so ardently wishes to restore, has commanded his ministers to direct Mr. Grenville, that the independency of the thirteen provinces should be proposed by him in the first instance, instead of making it a condition of a general treaty; however, not without the highest confidence, that the loyalists shall be restored to their possessions, or a full compensation made them for whatever confiscations may have taken place.

With respect to Mr. Laurens, we are to acquaint you, that he has been enlarged, and discharged from all engagements, without any condition whatever; after which he declared, of his own accord, that he considered lord Cornwallis as freed from his parole. Upon this point we are to desire your Excellency's sentiments, or those of Congress.

We are further acquainted, that transports have been prepared in England, for the conveying all the American prisoners to this country, to be exchanged here; and we are directed to urge, by every consideration of humanity, the most speedy exchange, a measure in which not only the congress, but the rights of individuals, are concerned.

A proposition has already been made, that (all exchanges of men of the same description being exchanged) sailor and soldier shall be immediately exchanged, man