

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1782.

L O N D O N, May 23.

MONSIEUR le marquis Fouquet is just arrived in London, commissioned from the court of France, to take a handsome furnished house for the count de Graffe and his suite, whose arrival in England may be soon expected.

This morning an express arrived at the admiralty from the commander of a private ship of war, stating that he had fallen in off the coast of France, with a large fleet of transports, laden with military stores, and bound to the isle of Rhe, in France, where they were waiting to receive them, and protect them in their passage to the East-Indies, where they were destined. The privateer captured one of them, from which he obtained the above information; and the names of the convoy were the Dictateur and Suffisant, each of 74 guns; the lading of the transport was very valuable, consisting, amongst other things, of upwards of 200 tons of gunpowder. The express farther mentions, that the privateer and her prize fell in soon afterwards with the squadron under the command of admiral Kemptfelt, to whom he gave the information. The admiral made an immediate signal for a general chase, and the account states, that there was the greatest probability of his coming up with them.

Letters were on Friday received from admiral Kemptfelt, who informs, that he had returned his old station off Brest, and that the enemy remained perfectly quiet in harbour. He had been informed however, by his reconnoitering frigates, that the French were in greater force than the private information had represented them, and he therefore requests an augmentation of two sail of the line as a reinforcement to his squadron. This request has been complied with, and orders have been sent to Plymouth for immediately dispatching the addition solicited.

The late resolutions of both houses of parliament of Great-Britain relative to the affairs of Ireland, have given universal satisfaction through the latter kingdom; the people seem to be affected by it, even to a degree of intoxication; their feelings towards England cannot be better expressed than in the words of the volunteers of Munster, assembled at Mallow, where delegates from eighty-six corps attended; it was there resolved unanimously, "That it is the earnest wish, and it must ever be the glory of Irishmen, to be connected with Great-Britain, by friendship never to be broken; by affections never to be changed; by interests never to be separated."

Government have received advice from the Elbe, that the foreign troops were all embarked on board the transports, and that they were to sail from thence the first fair wind after the ad instant. Immediately after the arrival of these troops, lord Howe will leave his station off the Texel, and proceed from thence with the Victory of 100 guns, Britannia 100, Ocean 90, and Queen 98, to join admiral Kemptfelt, leaving the following ships in the North Sea, under the brave admiral Rois, to watch the motions of the Dutch, v. z. Princess Amelia of 80 guns, Cambridge 80, Edgar 74, Alexander 74, Dublin 74, Raifonable 64, Bientailant 64, Buffalo 60, Rippon 60, and Panther 60.

There was a report this day at Change, that an officer would sail to-morrow in a frigate for Charlestown, with dispatches for the commanding officer at that place, directing him to embark the troops under his command, and proceed immediately for the West-Indies; as many of the inhabitants as pleased might go to New York, or vessels were to be provided by government to bring them and their effects to Europe.

Wednesday night an officer came express to the admiralty, with an account of the Cerberus frigate, capt. Man, being just arrived from Gibraltar, having in her way spoke with several sail, and that from the information they gave, it appeared that the Spanish fleet had sailed from Cadiz, in company with the count de Guichen, who, with seven sail of French men of war, was on his way to Brest. Their departure from Cadiz was so sudden, that it was supposed their object must be to obtain a proper equipment for the damaged ships, the yard at Cadiz not being able to supply stores even for the Spanish squadron. A very malignant disorder prevailed in the fleet previous to its sailing.

Dispatches were at the same time received at the secretary of state's office, from general Elliott, giving an account of the vigorous preparations the enemy were making, and containing a state of the garrison; the principal want of which was fresh provisions.

The dispatches which have been received at the earl of Shelburne's office from general Elliott, brought by the Cerberus frigate from Gibraltar, contain the agreeable assurance, that the garrison is in good health, but speak very feelingly of the hard duty which the troops experience, from the smallness of their number, and the immense fortifications they are compelled to defend. With respect to fresh provisions, the governor says they are well supplied by the Barbary states, but they are purchased at so dear a rate, that the private men are very barely furnished with them.

The following information on the subject of the late negotiation for a peace, may be depended upon:

At the accession of the present ministry, who had promised that we were to have the benefit of an immediate pacification on their coming into place, Mr. Oswald was dispatched to Dr. Franklin, at Passy, and Mr. Laurens to Brussels, where he was to meet Mr. Adams,

the American ambassador to the United Provinces. These gentlemen were empowered to make overtures of peace on the part of Great-Britain; the first condition of which was, that American independence should be admitted.

Upon Mr. Oswald's imparting these terms to Dr. Franklin, he said he could take no step without previously asking advice of the French ministry. They were accordingly invited to a conference with Oswald; but said Mont. de Vergennes, "Who is Mr. Oswald? it is inconsistent with the dignity of this government, to talk upon a subject of such importance with an individual, of private station. If the British cabinet have any proposals to bring forward, they can be attended to only through the medium of a person of high birth and distinction."

When this was made known at Mr. Oswald's return, the punctilio of the French was complied with; and Mr. Thomas Grenville, brother to lord Temple, was sent over to Paris, with powers to open a previous negotiation; that France, Spain, and America, might sketch out the path, which should lead to peace.

Mr. Grenville was no sooner arrived in Paris, than he announced to M. Vergennes the object of his journey, expecting a polite reception. Instead of which, he perceived that he was treated with a degree of coolness bordering upon contempt. However he was invited to a conference; but Vergennes opened the subject by declaring, "That France and Spain having at an enormous expence, provided such an armament as could hardly fail of reducing (if not the whole of the British West-India islands) at least the island of Jamaica, which was now the object of their united attack, were determined to postpone any farther progress in the negotiation till the event of their military operations was seen, and then they should be prepared to give them their terms."

There the matter rested when the last messenger came from Paris.

Extra of a letter from Portsmouth; June 12. Arrived yesterday evening the Pearl frigate, capt. Montague, from New-York. In this ship Sir Henry Clinton and several other officers came some passengers.

N E W - Y O R K, August 7.

The inhabitants within the British lines, are requested to appoint in their several wards and districts, two or three persons from each, to meet and confer on the subject of the letter communicated by their excellencies Sir Guy Carleton, K. B. and the honourable admiral Digby; and that the persons so appointed, be empowered to adopt such measures, as shall be thought proper on the occasion. The meeting will be held at Bouquet's tavern, on Friday next, ten o'clock, A. M.

It is earnestly recommended to the loyalists, every where, to suspend their opinion on the present important occasion, and, each in his place, to continue firm to the professions, he has made of loyalty and zeal for the re-union of the empire. The independency of the thirteen provinces has indeed been proposed at a conference in Paris, held for the purpose of a general peace; but, until a general peace shall be ratified, we cannot know what is to be the eventual condition of this country. In the mean time, therefore, we are bound by every consideration of prudence and duty, to wait the issue, with that manly steadiness, and cheerful reliance on the abilities and attention of our commanders in chief, which are at present our surest pledges of safety. By such a conduct we shall preserve a claim to national regard and protection, which it would be mad-ness to forfeit; since, by giving way to suggestions of impatience, we can only disgrace ourselves in the eyes of our enemies, without a shadow of advantage.

August 9. Wednesday was sent in here by the Tiger privateer, of this port, a small schooner loaded with flour, from Philadelphia a boua, to Cape Francois.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, August 13.

Copy of a letter from major-general Greene to his excellency the president of congress.

Head-Quarters, Army Hill, South Carolina, July 14, 1782.

S I R, I DO myself the honour to transmit your excellency a copy of general Wayne's letter, giving an account of the evacuation of Savannah. This event will afford great relief to the oppressed state of Georgia, and the southern parts of South-Carolina.

During the general's command in Georgia, he has had a complication of difficulties to struggle with; and I should be wanting in justice to his singular merit and exertions, were I not to recommend his conduct in the warmest terms to congress. I have the honour to be, with great respect, &c.

NATH. GREENE.

His excellency the president of congress.

Head-Quarters, Savannah, July 12, 1782.

DEAR GENERAL, THE British garrison evacuated this place yesterday at 12 o'clock, leaving the works and town perfect, for which the inhabitants are much obliged to that worthy and humane officer brigadier-general Clarke. It is the prevailing opinion, that the enemy will continue at Tybee for ten or twelve days.

Enclosed is a copy of my orders of the 12th, the governor and legislature meet here this evening or to-morrow, into whose hands I shall resign the civil police.

As soon as I am furnished with the invoices and returns of stores I will transmit you a copy.

In addition to the terms of the 17th ult. a copy of which was sent by Mr. Maffly, I have further agreed that the merchants and traders not in America or owing allegiance to this state, should have six months allowed them to dispose of their goods and adjust their concerns, at the expiration of which term they should be furnished with a passport to transport themselves and property received in exchange or payment for their goods, to one of the nearest British ports. I also agreed to receive all such citizens as had heretofore joined the enemy on condition that they enlisted in the Georgia battalion of continental troops, to serve as soldiers for two years or during the war, in consequence of which major Harberham has already near two hundred men, and will shortly complete the corps without one farthing expence to the public. I have the honour to be, &c.

Honourable major-general Greene.

Head-Quarters, Savannah, July 11, 1782.

THE light infantry company under capt. Parkers to take post in the center work in front of the town, placing sentries at the respective gateways and rally-ports, to prevent any person or persons going out or entering the lines without written permits until farther orders.

No insults or depredations to be committed on the persons or property of inhabitants, on any pretext whatever. The civil authority only will take cognizance of the criminals or defaulters belonging to the state, if any such there be.

The merchants and traders are immediately to make out an exact and true invoice of all goods, wares, and merchandises of every species, dry, wet, and hard, respectively belonging to them or in their possession, with the original invoices, to ———; who will select such articles as may be necessary for the army and for the public uses of this state, for which a reasonable profit will be allowed. No goods or merchandises of any kind whatever to be removed, secreted, sold, or disposed of, until the public and army are notified, which will be the soonest possible after the receipt of the invoice.

(Copy) Published by order of congress,

CHARLES H. HUNSON, sec.

Extra of a letter from Sunbury, July 24.

"We have been very happy in this county, ever since the court; have had no stroke from the Indians, nor no accounts from them till a few days ago, when one Keekart (who was taken prisoner in the spring) and Croninger, (taken also last fall) made their escape and gave the following account, that Sir John Johnston, with 500 Indians, and a number of green coats, (as they call them) had set out, just before they made their escape, to the Mohawk river, but was not able to learn precisely their intentions; however, the British as well as Indians seemed much alarmed, and quite in confusion. They also inform us, a party of about 50 had set out about two days before the express arrived from Niagara, to come to the frontiers of this county, but were recalled, and joined Johnston's party, and all are gone the same route."

Extra of a letter from Poughkeepsie, July 14.

Last Friday afternoon, one Hyat hired two negroes and a white man to mow or cradle his wheat, one of the negroes was a young fellow belonging to old Mr. Myers, a refugee from Harlem, the white man named Alexander Ellsworth, urged the young fellow to wrestle with him, the negro was unwilling, but at last consented and threw Ellsworth, who grew warm and pressed the negro to try another fall; he was more unwilling than before, but being almost forced, threw Ellsworth a second time. He being angry, insisted upon fighting the negro, he refusing, Ellsworth threatened to beat him on which the negro told him he would strike again if struck. The other negro, an old man, told them they had better return to their work, then taking his fish, proceeded towards the field, the young negro did the same and followed him; Ellsworth taking his fish, ran after the negro and made a stroke at him with such fury as to break one of the sticks of the cradle; the stroke instantly separated the joint in the back-bone, cut off two or three ribs, penetrated his entrails and liver; and it was the opinion of the spectators, that had it not been for the sticks of the cradle, the body would have been entirely cut in two, yet the negro did not instantly drop, nor die; but said to the murderer, "Won't you help me Aleck?" Yes I will said he, and took hold to support him. He immediately sunk down, saying to the bystanders, pray for me good people, and expired in about two minutes after receiving the wound. Ellsworth said I have killed him and must suffer for it, and immediately walked away, got his horse and rode off. The spectators were so astonished, they made no attempt to stop him; a number afterwards collected and went all night in pursuit of him but found him not. Poor old Myers had very little, except this negro, to support himself and family.

"While we are feeling the calamities of war, the general depravity of manners shews we really deserve all we suffer. Our vices only keep peace away from us."

A gentleman lately from head quarters informs us, that the troops of the United States are in good health and in high spirits, and that at no time since the war began, did America ever own a better clad, or better disciplined army.