

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, O C T O B E R 31, 1782.

H A G U E, July 10.

THE treaty of commerce between this republic and the United States of North-America, is already far advanced in the other provinces, and on the point of being consolidated. We are assured that the provinces of Holland and West-Friesland are to deliberate upon it this week.

MADRID, June 21. The duc de Crillon, who is appointed to the command of the troops employed to reduce Gibraltar, departed from this city on the 14th instant for Cadiz, whence he is to go to Algeiras. As soon as the count d'Artois shall arrive, the siege will be pushed with the greatest vigour. In the mean time, we may see by the following letter, what immense preparations are making in order to give the last stroke to that redoubtable fortress.

I have (says the author, who is arrived at Cadiz) just been through the camp of St. Roch, which may be called a city surrounded with a camp. The troops which compose it have constructed wooden barracks, which, from their uniformity and regular arrangement, exhibit a very pleasing appearance. The houses of the officers are almost all built with brick, with a small garden to each, in which flowers and vegetables are cultivated. The nine battalions which lately arrived from Minorca, are all in tents, and do not appear desirous of a more commodious situation. Great expectations are formed from the judgment, bravery, and activity of the duc de Crillon, whose arrival is looked for with an impatience which shews how honourably he is esteemed. In the interim, plenty is to be seen every where, attended with health and joy: the soldiers, inured to hardship and fatigue, perform wonders. Ten thousand men have hiterto done the duty of forty thousand; and it has frequently happened, that a party of the brigades de service have remained two days together in the trenches. The Spanish are perhaps the only soldiers of Europe who are capable of sustaining fatigue so painful, so constant, and hitherto accompanied with so little success. Habit has familiarized them to danger; they go into the trenches and to the most advanced posts, with as little concern as troops are seen to mount guard in a garrison.

The vessels arrived from Minorca, upwards of 100 in number, have brought an immense quantity of ammunition of every kind. It appears that the court spares nothing in preparing for a terrible and decisive attack. The advanced works and lines are already furnished with near 200 pieces of cannon and mortars; and besides 150 pieces of ordnance which I have seen in the park of artillery, many more are expected. On returning from Algeiras I found the road almost covered with carts, loaded with huge pieces of wood, which will be made use of for the floating batteries. The ways also contained vast numbers of soldiers, sailors, and labourers, who were going to the camp. The firing of the enemy is not great; when they are fired upon from the Spanish lines, as is the case from time to time, they return an answer. Some provision vessels got into the place during my stay at Ceuta and Algeiras; but nothing discourages the Spaniards; they are willing to expose themselves to every danger to follow the duc de Crillon, and to finish, under this adored general, a siege which has lasted so long. I saw at Algeiras the ten vessels which left Cadiz three weeks ago: they are cut down and dismantled, in order to be made floating batteries of; and are to be lined to such a degree of thickness as to resist cannon balls. As soon as every thing shall be completed, Gibraltar will be battered by land and sea at the same time: 700 pieces of ordnance will make upwards of 30,000 discharges in a day. The havoc which this terrible fire will occasion, must very soon render a general assault practicable, which the enemy will not be able to resist. It appears that the floating batteries will be stationed between the two mole-heads, and that the north part of the town will be destroyed by the cross fire of these batteries and that of the advanced works on the side of the Porte de Terre."

L O N D O N, July 18.

Yesterday some dispatches were received at the admiralty, from lord Howe. We are sorry to find they contain an account of Picquet's squadron having formed a junction with the combined fleet, which now consists of 38 sail of the line. His lordship was cruising to the westward of the enemy, in order to fall in with the homeward bound trade; the several frigates were likewise dispatched by his lordship to apprise the fleets of their danger, and to order them into Ireland. He likewise adds, that notwithstanding the superiority of the enemy, he has no doubt but he shall be able to protect them.

Our readers may depend on the following account being a correct narrative of the two fleets, from the time the enemy was first discovered to the Sunday evening:

Thursday, July 11. The Vigilant, 64 guns, with the Mediator, Recovery, and two other frigates, being on a cruise, off Ushant, saw a large fleet, which they soon discovered to be men of war, and found themselves chased by three or four large ships: the Recovery lost her top-mast, and was very near being taken, the enemy continuing to chase till within a few leagues of the Lizard.

Friday 12. In the morning one of the frigates which had been chased the evening before, met lord Howe

going down the channel with 22 sail of the line, having on board joined by the Ocean since he left Portsmouth, being informed of the combined fleet, whose strength the frigate could not acquaint him with, he continued his course.

Saturday 13. Discovered the enemy, consisting of at least 38 sail of the line, with one or two 50 gun ships, passed them in the night; and on Sunday, the 14th, the English fleet was to the westward, most probably with a view to protect the homeward bound trade, by securing their retreat into Corke, or some other port in Ireland.

It is a proof of the abilities of lord Howe, that with a fleet inferior by 16 or 17 sail, he should be able to pass the enemy, without being able to bring him to an engagement.

July 19. On the arrival in town of Mr. Jay, the secretary to congress, that gentleman signified to lord Shelburne, that the intention of his visit was that of a speedy and amicable negotiation; that the members of congress had duly instructed and authorized him to accommodate and decide any technical differences which might arise in the business, so as that the preliminaries for a firm and lasting amity might be finally adjusted and declared before his return to America, and not to be retarded by any other than some very material and important obstacle. A council was immediately summoned, and has sat twice, to consider of receiving him, and to be prepared with a set of determined articles to be proposed to him on the part of this country.

This morning some dispatches were received from Gibraltar, which were brought over in the Lively cutter: they contain an account of the arrival of four corsairs, laden with provisions, which had given them a very comfortable relief. Every thing remained quiet when the dispatches came away.

On Wednesday evening a messenger arrived at the right honourable Mr. Townshend's office at Whitehall, with dispatches from his grace the lord lieutenant of Ireland. We have authority to say, that they contain a most direct and positive resolution of immediate resignation of his viceroyship; and to peculiarly aver that he does his grace feel to act in conjunction with the present ministers; that he presses them to the strongest manner to appoint an immediate successor, that he may quit his employment without delay. In consequence of the above requisition from the duke of Portland, to resign the government of Ireland, a cabinet council was held after the levee at St. James's, when the right honourable earl Temple was, by his majesty's command, appointed lord lieutenant of that kingdom, and his lordship's brother, the honourable Mr. Grenville, was appointed principal secretary to the viceroyship. The earl Temple has not yet been created duke of Buckingham, as reported in the various news papers.

Yesterday the lieutenant of the Winchester frigate arrived at the admiralty, with dispatches from sir J. B. Warren, bart giving advice of his having watched the motions of the Dutch fleet since their departure from the Texel, and that on the 14th instant he left them steering for the northward of Scotland. They consisted of 19 two deckers, several armed Indiamen and some transports. Part of the men of war, it was supposed, would return again to the Texel, after escorting the outward bound ships to a certain latitude. He likewise adds, that a few days after sailing, he was fortunate as to pick up two transports belonging to this fleet; but it does not appear that any of the men of war are intended to join the combined fleet of France and Spain.

N E W - H A V E N, October 10.

Sunday forenoon, the enemy evacuated their post on Lloyd's Neck, demolished the works, and removed the stores and garrison to New-York.

Friday last arrived here the brig Cumberland, James Tindals, late master; her cargo, which is very valuable, consists of sugar, cotton, &c. was bound from Tortosa to Glasgow, in Scotland; but captured by the letter of marque sloop Harmony, captain Jonathan Hopkins, from this port.

N E W - Y O R K, October 11.

Yesterday arrived the ship Matilda, captain Beit, bound from Baltimore to Havana, laden with upwards of eighteen hundred barrels of flour. She proves to be another of the Chesapeake fleet, and sailed with the Jolly Tar, which was a few days since brought into this harbour. His majesty's ships have made deep impression upon the fortunes of the Baltimore merchants, by their late successful cruises. It is said this prize cost the supposed owners (Messrs. Chale and Dorley) many thousand pounds currency. The Matilda was taken by his majesty's ship Perseverance, captain Lutwidge; and we are told he has also taken a brigantine privateer, which also arrived here yesterday.

F I S H - K I L L, October 17.

We are informed, the French army, under the immediate orders of his excellency the count de Rochambeau, will move in few days to their winter cantonments at the eastward. It is said magazines are laid up on the Connecticut river.

It is certainly reported, that a corps is soon to be sent from the American army, to relieve or reinforce the troops at the northward: it is also believed that a corps of cavalry will be quartered this winter in the district of Vermont, as the forage in the interior parts

of the country has not been injured by the drought, as it has near the sea coast.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, October 22.

Many British soldiers have deserted from New-York within the last four weeks; some of them have arrived here. The last who came out say that it is probable the enemy will hold New-York this winter, as barracks for 3000 men are erecting on Staten-Island; and although some of their fort works have been lately demolished, the interior fortifications are strengthening. What dependence can be placed on this news, will best determine.

Extract of a letter from Paris, dated August 9.

Mr. Fitzherbert, minister plenipotentiary of his Britannic majesty, at the court of Brussels, being arrived here to resume the negotiations of peace, has had his first audience with count de Vergennes. As it was but a very short one, it is not probable that the subjects of his mission have been entered upon.

The journal of the combined fleet from the 15th to the 27th ultimo, has been received here. The 16th at day-break, the weather being hazy, the English squadron was like to fall in with ours; and had the fog lasted but a quarter of an hour longer, the fleets would have been mixed. But admiral Howe had just time enough to perceive the danger he was going into; he withdrew according to custom, without leaving us the possibility of attacking any of his vessels. The 19th and 20th the English squadron was yet fruitlessly chased; the night of it was lost on the day following, and Don Louis de Cordova having received orders to draw closer to our coasts, to protect the convoy of St. Domingo, which was expected. The fleets have not met one another since. The 27th the fleet received the packets from the court, which permitted them to make sail for Cadiz, where they will be able to arrive before the 15th instant, if wind favours them. At the same time Don Louis de Cordova had orders to draw near enough to the island of Aix, to get intelligence whether the convoys had made ready, and in case they should still be in this anchorage, to take them under his protection. The French division, consisting of 9 vessels, remains under the command of M. le Motte Piquet, as the count de Guichen was to bring back to Brest the Terrible, the Majestueux, and the Britannia, three deckers, which are going to be coppered. M. le Motte Piquet's division will be increased with the Protector of 74 guns, which, after having brought the convoys beyond the Cape, will leave that of the West-Indies under the escort of the Amphitriton, and will make sail for Cadiz, where are to repair about the same time the Dictator and the Suffisant, each of 74, lately built at Toulon. These will not stay long in the fleet, as they appear to be destined, as the Puissant of 74, to go to the East-Indies. The Spaniards will find before the Straits 8 or 9 of their ships, which being joined to the 27 of Don Louis de Cordova, and to 12 French ships, will form a fleet pretty respectable to make head to the English, in case they undertake to disturb the siege of Gibraltar with 35 or 36 vessels, which they are able to arm since the convoy of Jamaica has luckily arrived to them."

Office of finance, October 10, 1782.

PUBLIC notice is hereby given to all persons who may incline to contract for the supply of rations, that the seven following contracts will be entered into for the year 1783. A contract for all rations which may be issuable by the

- 1st, Within the four eastern states.
2d, Within the states of New-York and New-Jersey,
3d, Within the state of Pennsylvania,
4th, Within the states of Delaware and Maryland,
5th, Within the state of Virginia,
6th, Within the state of North-Carolina,
7th, Within the states of South-Carolina and Georgia.

Proposals for these contracts will be received as follows:

For the first, by James Lovell, Esq; at Boston, until the first day of December. For the second and third, at this office, until the 10th day of November. For the fourth at this office; for the fifth, by George Webb, Esq; at Richmond; and for the sixth and seventh, by major-general Greene, until the first day of December.

The rations are to consist of one pound of bread or one pound of flour, one pound of beef or three quarters of a pound of pork, and one gill of rum to each ration; one quart of salt, one quart of vinegar, two pounds of soap, and one pound of candles to every hundred rations. The contractors are to issue the rations, and upon large issues, three per cent. is to be added to the flesh, to compensate for the wastage in distribution.

The payments are to be made as follow:

The accounts of the issues for the month of January, are to be made out by the contractors, and transmitted, as soon as conveniently may be, after the close of the month, to the treasury for settlement, and the amount which shall be certified by the comptroller to be due, shall be paid on the first Tuesday in May. The issues for the month of February shall, in like manner, be paid for on the first Tuesday in June; and in like manner for the other months, that the issues in December 1782, will be paid on the first Tuesday of April, 1784.

And for the prevention of disputes, in cases where the ration or any part thereof shall be increased or diminished, the proposals are to contain the prices