

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J A N U A R Y 9, 1783.

CONSTANTINOPLE, August 26.

ON the 22d instant, about ten o'clock at night, a fire broke out in the quarter called Gibali, situated towards the middle of the harbour, which a high north wind rendered to such a degree, as to burn some time, the efforts made to suppress it. This was the greatest perhaps that ever happened, continued during sixty-two hours, without intermission, with such fury, that one of the largest palaces, the habitation of the aga of the janissaries, disappeared in less than ten minutes. The flames proceeded from sea to sea, and burnt even the interior of the Seven Towers, at the opposite extremity of the city. In this direction the fire raged three miles in length, through the richest and best inhabited streets, on a front some times a mile broad, and sometimes less, according to the irregular hilly situation of the city. In some places it extended in different directions, so that at one time there appeared no less than eleven distinct conflagrations, most of which ceased only at the sea side, after consuming the very wharfs. It is impossible to estimate the losses of all kinds, occasioned by this calamity; but it is certain, that numbers of people perished in the flames, and that many were driven by them into the sea, and unfortunately drowned. Previous to this sad misfortune, with which this unfortunate city has been visited, it was supposed to contain seventy thousand houses, of which it is believed about two-fifths now lie in ruins.

It is more easy to conceive than describe the scene of distress which a city in this lamentable situation must exhibit, with, perhaps, two hundred thousand unemployed inhabitants. The grand seignior and all the ministers of the Porte as usual attended on this awful occasion, and distributed money to the people; and an order was published by the muty to suspend the fast of the Ramazan, that the people might recruit their strength, and be the more able to work. Owing to the direction of the wind, which continued high during the day, the flames did not approach the quarter of the city, and were extinguished; but the people of the law have suffered prodigiously, and amongst other public edifices, the chambers of the janissaries, upwards of fifty mosques, three hundred corn mills, and two hundred public ovens have been destroyed.

PETERSBURGH, Sept. 20. The Squadron commanded by admiral Kruse, which, according to its first destination was to cruise only in the North seas, hath received orders to sail for the Mediterranean, with the ships of the vice-admiral Tschelchogoff; and it is added, that these two squadrons together, amounting to ten ships of the line, and some frigates, will be reinforced next spring with eight or ten more ships which we building at Cronstadt.

STOCKHOLM, October 1. We have received advice that the Russian troops in garrison in Finland have received orders to march to the frontiers of Turkey. The troubles of Crimea excite attention still more and more, and occasion great movements.

MUNICH, Sept. 30. The count and countess of the north, who stopped at Augsburg, set off yesterday at seven in the forenoon, for Dachau, directing their way through Schiesheim, Freoingen, and Landshut, where they lay, and were complimented in the name of the emperor, by the baron de Leyrbuch, minister plenipotentiary of his imperial majesty, to the court of the elector Palatine.

This day these illustrious travellers are expected at Branau, where general de Branau is to receive them in behalf of the emperor, and conduct them to Vienna.

HAGUE, October 2. A report spread here fixes the public attention, namely, that the duke de la Vauguon had been instructed in his conference last Wednesday, that "the king his master would not be dissipated to see the republic send ten or fourteen men of war to Brest, to form a junction with the ships there, in order to strike a blow against the common enemy, and that his excellency expected an answer in form."

Oct. 3. In consequence of the resolution of the states of Holland of the 17th ult. their noble and great ministers have named M. de Gizelar, Van Stavren, and Vesselier, pensioners of the cities of Dart, Leyden, and Amsterdam, together with Messieurs Van Kivold and Meercot, secretaries of the cities of Hoom and Rotterdam, to confer with the prince stadtholder, relatively to the subjects of the resolution. For which purpose, these gentlemen, accompanied by the grand pensionary, on the 3d instant, was led on his highness at his house at the Wood, in a solemn deputation, for to perform the duty they had in charge. They came about one in the afternoon, and were received by the prince with great solemnity.

AMSTERDAM, October 5. It appears that all the cities of Holland have acceded to the proposition of the 31st of July last, made by the city of Leyden, for enquiries into the languid administration and direction of our naval forces, as well as the equally patriotic proposition of our city, for a new concert of military operations with the court of France; a concert which shall last during the war. These two steps have met with the suffrages and applauses of all the true citizens. The inhabitants of Leyden, the better to set forth the patriotism of their regents, have formed, in the meetings held for that purpose, an address of thanks which is to be presented to them. Those of Dart and Rotterdam

have in like manner honoured their respective regencies on this occasion.

CADIZ, Sept. 26. The Danish corvette the Saint Jean, is related, with every thing belonging to her, and delivered to the Danish consul, in consequence of express orders received from Madrid. It is presumed that the court of Denmark will be satisfied with this, which has been done at the unanimous intercession of all the neutral courts.

L O N D O N, October 10.

The Kamilies was built in 1763, and was reckoned one of the fastest sailers in the navy. We are happy to find that the man on board her was preserved.

It is remarkable, that the former Kamilies shared nearly the fate of the late ship of that name. She broke from her moorings at Portsmouth, on the 15th of February, 1760, and drove to pieces. She was then commanded by captain Taylor, who, with most of his officers and crew perished.

A letter from Hanover says, that orders are arrived there from England, for raising a regiment of soldiers, which are to learn their exercise, and be ready for service early in the spring, and that in Hesse more troops are to be raised for the service of England, but to what part they are to be sent is not yet known.

Oct. 12. By letters from Constantinople we are advised, that the grand seignior has sent circular letters throughout his extensive empire, ordering his Bahaws to collect their respective troops together with all possible expedition; he has further directed, that 40,000 of his troops shall be incorporated into the corps of the janissaries, and be entitled to every privilege bestowed on that body of men.

A letter from Petersburg says, that the empress has published a proclamation, offering great encouragement to all foreign shipwrights that will enter into her service, and has given orders for raising troops in every part of her extensive empire, intending to have a more powerful navy and army than ever she had before; and that it is generally believed here, that she intends to employ her whole force against the Turks.

A letter from the Hague has the following article: "Their high mightinesses seem alarmed at the preparation making in Denmark for war, it being supposed that a rupture will happen between the states and the Danes; and therefore their high mightinesses have sent orders to their ambassador at Copenhagen to demand the reason of such vast preparations, and against what power they intend to employ their forces. A courier is daily expected from Copenhagen with an answer to the demand made by the Dutch ambassador."

Extract of a letter from Dul in October 8.

Last Friday evening the privy council sat at the castle, on the subject of encouraging and providing a suitable asylum for the Geneveis, who may prefer living under our free government, to the mutilated constitution of their republic, when it was unanimously determined to recommend the matter in the strongest manner to his majesty's consideration, and in consequence dispatches to that purpose were sent off next day; since which, we hear with pleasure, that his majesty has declared he would exert the royal bounty in their favour, by a grant of 25,000l. to defray the expenses of the emigrants from their own country to Ireland, and a like sum in aid of their establishment when arrived. Besides the offer made the Geneveis by the earl of Ely of a settlement in the county of Wexford, the duke of Leinster has made not only a similar offer in the county of Kildare, but added thereto such encouragements as it is thought will determine the emigrants immediately to begin their journey.

"The Geneveis gentleman who was lately in this city on the business of the emigration, is a person of great character, and considerable property. He has received the greatest encouragement and marks of favour from the ministers in Great-Britain and Ireland, and is now on his return to his native country, in order to prepare all matters respecting this great business."

Oct. 19. When all the regiments of Turkey are completed, the military force of that kingdom will amount to 220,000 men, Spahs and janissaries included.

A letter from Constantinople, by the way of Holland, has the following article: "Certain intelligence is received here from Petersburg, that the empress is determined to enter into a war with the Turks, on that account is not yet publicly known, which has greatly alarmed all here, as we are not at this time in a condition to enter into a war; the insurrection in many provinces, and the destruction of the city by fire, have spread an universal consternation here. The empress's ambassador has returned home, on pretence of settling his private affairs, but he is not expected to return again. The sultan has ordered his forces to be collected together, except the janissaries, whom he is afraid to trust, as they seem to be ripe for any mischief, and intend only to act upon the defensive. In short, matters are in so deplorable a situation that many people are greatly alarmed for the safety of the empire."

Oct. 22. A letter from Amsterdam says, that there have been some debates among the members of the state relative to a peace with England; some are for compromising matters on reasonable terms, but the majority are for such terms as it is believed the court of Great-Britain will not agree to. It is said, that orders sent to the Dutch ambassador at Paris, not to enter into a negotiation with the English plenipotentiaries, but on such terms as have already been proposed by the

states, unless it be agreeable to the court of France to accede to the proposals offered by the court of London. A courier is hourly expected to arrive from Paris, with an account of the French resolution in the affair.

Oct. 26. Ostend is really overrun with trade; the whole harbour bears the appearance of a forest, thick set with stately trees: a gentleman who left it on Monday last, declares that he counted 1600 sail in it on Saturday and Sunday; and the entrance of the harbour, which formerly was very safe, is now become dangerous, from the prodigious number of vessels that are constantly going in, or coming out.

Extract of a letter from Paris, October 18.

"A report of a singular nature is whispered in the private political circles, that a proposition has been made by the English negotiator, that is said to have staggered our court. The Englishman finding that the independence of America was strenuously insisted on by our minister is said to have proposed a division or partition of the colonies; and just threw out the idea that Great-Britain would probably not make much difficulty in ceding to France the New-England provinces, on condition that France should break the alliance with the congress, and join in the reduction of the southern colonies: count de Vergennes, to whom the report says the proposition was made, appeared surprized, and rather embarrassed; but recovering himself, he observed with a smile, which seemed to indicate that he did not think the Englishman in earnest, that the proposition was too advantageous to Great-Britain, as it would secure to her the great tobacco trade of America. The Englishman replied, that if England should have the tobacco, France would have a great corn trade, and what was better, immense stores of timber for ship-building and most populous colonies. This is all that transpired of the conversation, except that the Englishman just hinted, that if France should not relish his proposition, he made not the least doubt but some other continental power would readily embrace it. Our politicians think it a most favourable one to France, as the great object of weakening England, would be effectually answered, while a great accession of power would come to the French; however, there are not wanting some who think that we should find ourselves bubbled in the end, if our ministers should accede to the proposition: Canada, on the north, would be a thorn in our side, whilst we should find ourselves hemmed in by the colonies to the south, and as the new Englanders are republicans by principle, they would never rest easy under a government rigidly monarchical; they would therefore be always inclined to revolt, and might perhaps return at last to their old masters, who would readily embrace them."

Oct. 29. In addition to the intelligence of last night, respecting the disaster which happened to the combined fleet between the 10th and 13th instant, we learn that on the morning of the 12th, at day-light, a large three decker, French or Spanish (name not known) was seen on shore near Europa Point, and that the garrison were endeavouring to bring guns to bear to destroy her. While the combined fleet were in such distress from the storm, the garrison fired at one of their 74 gun ships, which was disabled and towing into Algieras, by which she was twice set on fire. The Invincible, a French first rate of 110 guns, was run on shore at Algieras, to prevent her sinking. The Spaniards lost already known, amounts to two ships of the line entirely lost and five materially damaged; the French one ship lost, and the rest damaged. In short, most of the fleet were disabled. Of 50 sail of the line riding at Algieras the 4th of October, they have account only of 38; but it is supposed four bore away to Malaga, or some other of the Spanish ports. A French frigate of 40 guns, that was in the storm, got into Estapona, a small port a few leagues from Gibraltar, where there is a fort. The Spaniards besides the loss of their men of war, had several galleys drove on shore and the crews lost. The hurricane is said to have been equally violent, for the time, with that which threatened the destruction of Gibraltar, in February, 1776, except the thunder and lightning with which the first was attended.

The accounts respecting this most important information are not directly received through an official medium, but are nevertheless sufficiently authenticated to preclude the possibility of a doubt. No regular dispatch has been hitherto received at the admiralty, and the way by which it was received in England was this: lord Mountauart, the British ambassador at Turin, received the information at that place, and having made proper enquiries into its authenticity, and being convinced of its truth, dispatched his own servant express with the news to Mr. Fitzherbert at Paris, who instantly expedited the arrival of it in England, through the means of a Mr. Brett, who delivered it yesterday at Mr. Townhend's, Whitehall.

On Thursday last a small armed cutter was sent express from Falmouth with dispatches and a special messenger to Sir Guy Carleton. An American gentleman also went in her, said to be charged with some commission or message relative to the loyalists in that country.

N E W - Y O R K, December 23.

Yesterday was sent in here by his majesty's ships Quebec, captain Mason, Africa, captain Ferguson, and Diomedes, captain Frederick, the ship South-Carolina, captain Joyner, of 44 guns, (22 of which are 42 pounders) and 300 men, from Philadelphia for Europe.