

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 1783.

LONDON, December 9.

SUPPOSING the war to be wound up so soon as the fifth day of January, the national debt will amount to the very alarming extent of 150 millions sterling.

The ensuing Christmas recess is expected to be a long one, in order to give our ministers full breathing time to adjust preliminaries for peace. England never was, since the beginning of the war, in such a critical state as she finds herself in at present; she is neither at war nor peace; the business of commerce is at a stand; the merchants know not to what extent they may send their merchandise, or what premiums they may find for insurance; nor do the under-writers know what premium they should demand; hence it is that the business of insuring ships and cargoes, so necessary to trade, is completely at a stand, though a fleet is expected soon from Jamaica.

Saturday about one o'clock, a messenger arrived from France. By this channel we learn, that a naval officer arrived in Paris on the second, who came home in a sloop of war from the East-Indies, and was landed at a distant port.

The accounts he brings are, that, after the last battle with Sir Edward Hughes and the French fleet, de Suffrein did not go to Columbo, (which is on the west side of the island of Ceylon) as had been conjectured, but bore away for Porto Nova, a port belonging to Hyder Ally, on the coast of Coromandal, between Pondicherry and Negapatam, where they landed their troops, to the amount of 2400 men, officers included, a variety of tent equipage, artillery and military stores. This port being very small and inconvenient for large ships, they left it on the 16th of June, and proceeded to Tranquebar, a Danish settlement of the same coast, where one of their ships of 74 guns had run in before, in order to prevent her sinking.

Commodore Suffrein directly went on shore, where he was received most politely by the Danish governor, the count de Sirelont, who informed him, that he had it in command from home, not to permit any operations in his master's port, which might be construed in the court of London, with whom the Danish king is in the closest alliance, to be a breach of neutrality; after having received some refreshments he must depart, since such a force could not be entertained, much less retained there.

De Suffrein on this went on board the Vengeur, which bore his flag, and held a naval council. What the purport was is not known; but it is certain he had not left Tranquebar on the 21st of June, which is the date of his letter to the court of France.

News was received at Tranquebar that two ships of 74, and one of 64 guns, with a cutter armed en flute, arrived at Columbo the 26th of May. It is probable these were the ships that were taken by one of admiral Hughes's cruizers, for the French fleet which the admiral had engaged.

The cattle which were intercepted by Hyder Ally, which bore Madras to Sir Eyre Coote, will be of finite service to draw his heavy artillery; they are of no use in the way of subsistence; Hyder's army being composed of persons whose religion prevents their eating animal food; they subsist wholly on vegetables, nor do they use wine or other liquors, but in case of sickness, though it has often appeared they have shammed illness, to procure a sup of the all potent libation from Bacchus's cup.

A correspondent observes, that it was very singular that no person in either house of parliament paid the least compliment to Sir Edward Hughes, or even mentioned his name; when it is well known a more brave and bloody action has not been fought since the days of Charles II.

Dec. 10. The politics of the present premier are all of a peace, and every part of the system sufficiently indicates the spirit and tendency of the whole. From the first moment of his assuming the presidency of the treasury, every possible exertion has been made, and every little manœuvre adopted to impress the public with the conviction of his deriving all his political knowledge and principles, from the late earl of Chatham. The popularity of this illustrious name, is the bladders that has hitherto buoyed him up. To this interested idea the son of his immortal master owes his present elevation. In his apprehension the very name of Pitt will cement the most heterogeneous arrangement that ever constituted an English ministry. In short, in all matters that require cunning and finesse, Malagrida will always be distinguished; for if he has any facts at all, it is hypocrisy; and if ever there was an hypocrite, he is one.

It is very remarkable that the bench of bishops have observed a perfect taciturnity on the present prospect of peace. While war was the topic, their reverencies blew the long trumpet of Moses as loudly as if they had been under the walls of Jerico; but the independence of America deprives them of a land of promise, Philadelphia is no longer considered as a new Jerusalem. No hierarchy. No episcopacy to be established there.

Dec. 11. Of all people under the sun, the American loyalists most loudly challenge our compassion; their property confiscated, and poverty entailed upon their posterity, they in us become the wretched dependants for subsistence upon the bounty of the very people by whom they have been deserted.

Dec. 14. Instructions are sent out by the Swallow sloop to America, and the West-Indies, very particularly addressed to the commanders, naval and military, on those stations. As far as can be collected in matters where such extreme secrecy is used, we only hear that in the military line hostilities are to cease entirely. In the naval department, war is also to cease as far as respects commerce, in which America is only affected; but the king's cruizers are still to blockade the American harbours, where no ships that are not really American (the neutrals excepted) are to be permitted to trade. And in order that the French, Dutch, or Spaniards, may by no means receive a benefit to the detriment of this country during the war, all ships whatever are to be considered as lawful capture if taken going into the harbours of either of those powers, laden with provisions, stores, ammunition, lumber, &c. of any kind whatever.

A letter from Cadiz says, that a fleet of ships is ordered to be got ready to scour the Mediterranean of the Barbary corsairs; they have taken several Spanish transports during the siege of Gibraltar. They are to cruise off the Barbary coast so long as the weather will permit them to keep the sea.

Extract of a letter from Flushing, November 20. "The fleet are laid up here for the winter; it consists of 11 men of war; as many more are at Helvoetsluys, many of them of the line."

Jan. 11. Yesterday some dispatches were received from general Elliot, governor of Gibraltar, which are brought down so low as the 27th of last month, when every thing remained quiet, and they were busily employed in repairing the damages sustained by the last attack on that fortress.

Jan. 12. The emperor of Germany by a late edict has in a manner put a stop to the frequent practice of Ostend of neutralising ships manifestly belonging to others than the subjects of the empire. The edict enacts, that the sole and whole property of the ships sailing under the imperial flag, shall be owned by the resident subjects of Germany, and not as heretofore, nominally owned by merchants at Ostend, for the Americans, the Dutch, or other trading powers. In this latter way there were above 1500 vessels belonging to Ostend on the first day of this year, although not one of them were the property of Germany.

S A L E M, February 27.

We have the pleasure to hear, by the vessels lately arrived from the West-Indies, that the privateer ship Porus, mounting 22 nine pounders, belonging to this port, and commanded by captain Crowell, arrived at Martinico about the 12th of last month. This ship, not being heard of for upwards of five months after her sailing, was thought to be lost.

The Porus has captured and carried into Martinico with her, a ship of about 350 tons, called the Friend's Glory, bound from the Iue of Wight to New York. Her cargo consists of provisions, the principal part flour and peas.

March 6. Since our last, the captains Orne, Hodges, and Dennis, have arrived here from Hispaniola. They sailed from the Ocoys on the 3d ult.

A Jamaica paper, of January 15, brought by captain Orne, mentions the arrival, at that island, of the British frigates Emerald and Endymion, and Hornet sloop of war, with about 42 sail of vessels under their protection, having on board a great number of the inhabitants of Charles-town, with their negroes, &c. as also the 3d, 63d, 64th, and 71st regiments, and a part of the 84th.

B O S T O N, March 6.

Head Quarters, Newburgh, February 6, 1783.

THE commander in chief, who wishes in the return of this auspicious day, to diffuse the feelings of gratitude and pleasure as extensively as possible, is pleased to grant a full and free pardon to all prisoners now in confinement: any non-commissioned officer or private who may come under this predicament, are ordered to be released without delay, and join their respective regiments: the general flatters himself, this act of grace will have a proper influence on the future conduct of those immediately concerned, and that well timed instances of lenity will operate on generous minds, more effectually towards establishing a proper system of discipline (which he has determined shall be invariably maintained) than the severest examples could have done.

March 8. Wednesday last arrived in port the ship Antwerp, captain Deshon, in 41 days from Amsterdam, Holland.

A packet, enclosed in a neat brass case, came in captain Deshon, superscribed to the president of the honourable the congress at Philadelphia; but no letters or papers, are yet handed to any public or private characters in this town, from which we are able to gather any thing conclusive for the gratification of our readers this evening.

March 15. Thursday arrived here the state sloop Winthrop, captain Little, from a cruise, during which she captured two prizes, viz. a brig and schooner, laden with lumber, both which she carried into St. Kitts, and sold.

Yesterday captain Poal, in the ship Fox, arrived in port, in 23 day from Port-au-Prince, by whom we

The alliance with France.

learn, that captain Thomas Powars, in the brig General Washington, had arrived at that island, in a passage of 18 days from this port.

Two prizes have been taken and carried into Providence, within the week past; one a retaken brig, from Cadiz, with fruit, raisins, oil, &c. &c. the other a vessel from New-York, with but a small cargo.

Extract of a letter from Amsterdam, December 31, 1782.

"Europe never appeared so hostile as at present, the exertions of the contending powers are great, and if the war is determined on, human nature will shudder at the tale which will be told before the close of another year."

March 20. An address to lord Shelburne, printed in the London courier, the 16th of last December, closes with the following striking passages:

"The last point I have in view, my lord, is to say a few words upon that part of the king's speech, and especially upon your lordship's comment upon that part which appeals to the feelings of America. The speech says, 'religion, language, interest, affections, may, and I hope will yet prove a bond of permanent union between the two countries.' My lord, nothing but conviction that this speech is the speech of the minister, can prevent the universal contempt of all America from falling down upon the royal speaker himself. You appeal to the feelings of America! You, the leader and principal author of all their calamities!"

"Who was it that tore open the wounds which were healed by repealing the stamp-act? Lord Shelburne. Who was it that passed the New-York restraining bill? Lord Shelburne. Who was it that passed the tea or tax act? Lord Shelburne. Who was it that insulted the prince, and roused the feelings of America, by his dispatches to the governor of Massachusetts-Bay? Lord Shelburne. Who was it, after a seven years cruel and calamitous war, which deluged the fields of America with the blood of her children, and spread desolation, famine, and the worst of miseries, throughout her vast continent; that said, 'America could have no peace until it was writ in blood, and that the minister who gave her independence must be a traitor?' Lord Shelburne.

"And yet, my lord, you appeal to the feelings of America. What opinion must the people of that country entertain of the prince who suffered himself, without possibility of benefit, to appeal to their feelings. Had you determined to draw the marked contempt of all America upon your sovereign and yourself, I do not see how you could have done it with more effect, than by the steps you have taken."

We hear from Newbury-Port, that last Thursday morning about five o'clock, a fire was discovered in the printing-office of Mr. John Mycall of that town, which entirely consumed the same.

N E W - Y O R K, March 26.

Extract of a letter from Tortola, dated March 7, 1783.

"The Duc de Bourgogne, of 74 or 80 guns, is lost at Port Cavallos, on the coast of Caracca, on the main, and about S. S. E. from Curacca, forty or fifty miles: two hundred men were saved, eight hundred perished in her; it was on the lee reef, at the entrance of the harbour: this I assert as a fact. There remains seven sail of the line there, three at Curacca, and three frigates, all under the count de Vaudreuil, and all in very so, so, order; they cannot be ready to leave that place until about this time. There are eighteen transports with troops with them. God grant Jord Hood may meet with them, but he is down at Jamaica. A gentleman of merit and truth, is my author for the above, who was their prisoner, and left them only eighteen days ago."

"The Argo, of 44 guns, or rather 32, and 400 men, was taken by the Nymph and Amphibite, two French frigates of 40 and 32 guns, after a running fight of five hours, it blowing fresh, with a high sea, and unable to use her lower decks; and losing her top-mast, occasioned this unfortunate capture; but the gallant Saxon, in the Invincible, falling in with the Monieurs 36 hours afterwards, retook her in five minutes time, with our general (Shirley), two lieutenants, and two hundred and fifty Englishmen on board, and brought her safe into Spanish-town.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29. The Alliance sloop, captain Barry, is arrived at Newport, in Rhode Island, from the Havanna, which she left in company with the ship Duke de Lauzun, lately arrived here. On the 20th inst. (three days after they left Havanna) they fell in with three British frigates, with whom they had an action, in which the Alliance lost 11 men killed, &c. but we have no particulars of this fight. Captain Barry was chased on our coast by two frigates.

We hear that the United States in congress assembled, have been pleased to promote that gallant and meritorious officer, colonel Armand, to the rank of a brigadier-general in the American army.

April 1. We hear that in consequence of information communicated to general Carleton and admiral Digby, of the agreeable news of peace, lately received here, advices were on Saturday night brought to this city from those commanders, intimating, that as they had not yet received official accounts of that important event, they could not act upon the information then communicated.