

at once: the Spaniards, however, did not think proper to land, and only once made a disposition for that purpose, when the countenance kept up by the Moorish troops obliged the boats to return to the shipping. The loss of the Moors is supposed to have been considerable, as they exposed themselves in whole troops to the shot of the fleet, and gave several instances of the most daring valour, but, fortunately for the Spaniards, their ignorance in working the great guns, rendered their most formidable batteries of little efficacy, which otherwise might have made great havoc among them.

By the signing of the definitive treaty on Wednesday, we shall have all our West India islands restored to us before Christmas, it being agreed in the preliminary articles, that all places taken during the war, shall be given up again within three months after signing the definitive treaty, and as much sooner as can be effected.

Advices are received from Lisbon, of a ship being arrived in the Tagus from Goa, which place she left the 26th of March last. At that time, the garrison was put by the governor under the strictest discipline, as the natives of India were exceedingly troublesome, and threatened that settlement: they were in daily expectation of a reinforcement from Europe. The British fleet from Bombay passed by that place the 21st of March, and were joined by three men of war of the same nation, which had been there for a repair ever since the month of December. The fleet consisted of near 20 sail; and Sir Edward Hughes continued to command, having had no news of the Caro, of 50 guns, which sailed with admiral Sir Hyde Parker from England, in October last. The fleet never brought to, but kept on their voyage to the Comandul coast, where they expected to find Sulstein, whose strength was not by any means certainly known.

There are letters from Paris, which mention it as a fact, that "the court of Versailles had notified to the Russian minister, the intentions of the French monarch to give the Porte the most effectual succour, in case of a war with the empress." This decisive measure may possibly impede the hostile attempts of Russia.

Our last letters from Paris advise, that several capital houses had lately stopped payment in that metropolis for very considerable sums: two French houses in London likewise stopped a few days since, for near 200,000l. sterling.

The most experienced speculators in the funds are at a loss to account for the stocks not getting up, on the official intimation of the definitive treaty being to be signed at Paris the 3d inst. there never having been an instance, before the present, when they did not rise on such an event at least four per cent.

Sept. 17. The talents which Mr. Fox displays in negotiation, surprise even the expectations of his partial admirers. There are two or three points gained in the progress of the definitive treaty, which are very candidly owned by other ministers to have been achieved by this great statesman alone.

A letter from Toulon says, that six sail of the line were ordered to be got ready for sea as fast as possible, that they have their full complement of men, and are only to wait till they have taken their provisions on board; but whether they are defined is not known. They are to be joined by others from Marseilles.

Sept. 22. The preliminary articles just agreed upon by the Dutch, give such a favourable turn to our eastern affairs, that India stocks have in consequence thereof risen near ten per cent. within this fortnight.

The definitive treaty with America being signed, and every thing entirely settled, a correspondent wishes to know the reason why no ambassador, minister, or envoy from congress, has yet made a public appearance at court, nor do we hear of any one being appointed by our ministry to that station in America.

At the winding up of the war, the Dutch find their expences, for little more than two years amount to thirty millions of ducats of gold, which, valued at 9/7 each, amount to near twenty millions of pounds sterling; such is the loss by the war.

It has been proposed to the Dutch plenipotentiaries in the course of the negotiation, to take Demerara as an equivalent for the restitution of Negapatam, but the estimation of the former of these places has increased in Holland, ever since admiral Rodney gave it such an eulogium in the gazette, as taught them to believe, that it is more valuable than most of the islands in the West-Indies.

Our affairs in the east bear a very different aspect to what they did some months since; the Marhatta peace, with the death of Hyder Ally, it is expected, will, at last, be the means of producing a general peace to that country.

Sept. 25. A letter from Petersburg says, that several more English officers were arrived in that city, and had been introduced to the empress, who received them with the greatest marks of respect, and that they were preparing to set out to join the army, which lay encamped within a short distance of the Turkish army, so that an action is hourly expected.

Mr. Flood is prepared for the parliamentary campaign, in union with all the other leaders of his party; a stroke, which will set Ireland in a flame.—It is a militia act, which is to put the sword for ever effectually into the hands of the people, by making every thing elective; and at the same time to burthen the rest of the kingdom with their pay and support. This scheme will be highly popular among the corps, and as it is impossible for the royal assent to be given to it, will spread universal confusion.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

ST. JAMES'S, Sept. 9. On Saturday night last captain Warner arrived with the preliminary articles between his majesty and the States general, signed at Paris on the 2d instant; as also the definitive treaties of peace between his majesty and the most christian and catholic kings, signed at Versailles on the 3d instant, by his grace the duke of Manchester, his majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, and by the respective plenipotentiaries of their most christian and catholic majesties and the States general.

The definitive treaty with the United States of America, was also signed at Paris on the 3d instant, by David Hartley, Esq; his majesty's plenipotentiary, and by the plenipotentiaries of the United States; and Mr. Hartley is hourly expected to arrive with it.

Sept. 12. Yesterday evening David Hartley, Esq; arrived with the definitive treaty between his majesty and the United States of America, which was signed at Paris the 3d instant by him, as his majesty's plenipotentiary, and by the plenipotentiaries of the United States.

Sept. 23. Last night one of the king's messengers, dispatched by his grace the duke of Manchester, arrived with the most christian and catholic kings ratifications of the definitive treaty of peace, signed the 3d of this month, which were exchanged with his grace, against those of his majesty, on the 19th instant, at Versailles, by the ambassador and plenipotentiary of their most christian and catholic majesties.

On this occasion the Tower and Park guns were fired this day at one o'clock.

The ratifications of the preliminary articles by the States general were not arrived at Paris when the messenger set out, but were daily expected.

BOSTON, October 27.

Last Friday afternoon, a man by the name of — who had for some time past lived unhappily with his wife, was then agreeing with her about parting; but a dispute arising with respect to their furniture, he instantly stabbed her with a knife on the right side, and then hastily rubbed himself with an awl, but was immediately seized and committed to gaol.

Yesterday arrived here a distressed ship, after 73 days from Lisbon.

Also arrived here yesterday captain Hallet, in 31 days from Jamaica; and captain Hudson, from Port-au-Prince.

A ship bound from Newbury for the West-Indies, on Friday last struck on Newbury bar and was lost.

Yesterday arrived here captain Magee, in 30 days from Gottenburg.

NEW-YORK, November 1.

The September packet had failed from Falmouth for this port; and the Orient packet, with the first mail from France, charged with the definitive treaty between Great Britain and the United States of America, to the Congress, was to sail from that port on or before the 20th day of September. The ship Lady Washington had failed for Philadelphia before the Hartford, which last ship left the Lizard on the first of October.

ANNAPOLIS, November 20.

On Monday the 3d instant the United States in Congress assembled proceeded to the choice of a president, when the honourable THOMAS MIFFLIN, Esq; was unanimously elected, in the room of his Excellency Elias Boudinet, Esq; whose term of delegation had expired.—And the chairman (the president being absent) was directed to adjourn Congress on the 5th instant, to meet in this city on the 26th, for the dispatch of public business.

UNITED STATES in CONGRESS assembled, October 25, 1783.

THE president having this day laid before Congress a letter from the honourable P. J. Van Berekel, enclosing a copy of a letter of credence, by which it appears that he is appointed minister plenipotentiary from their high mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands to the United States of America; and the said minister having requested to be informed when and where Congress will admit him to an audience:

Resolved, That the said honourable P. J. Van Berekel, be received as minister plenipotentiary from their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands, and that, agreeably to his request, he be admitted to a public audience in Congress.

That the Congress room in Princeton, on Thursday next, at noon, be appointed as the time and place of such audience.

That the superintendent of finance and secretary at war, or either of them, perform on this occasion the duties assigned to the secretary for foreign affairs in the ceremonial respecting foreign ministers; and that they inform the supreme executives of New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, his Excellency the commander in chief, the honourable the minister plenipotentiary of France, and such civil and military gentlemen as are in or near to Princeton, of the public audience to be given to the honourable the minister plenipotentiary of their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands.

Ordered, That the superintendent of finance and secretary at war, or either of them, take order for an entertainment to be given at the public expense to the honourable P. J. Van Berekel, minister plenipotentiary from their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands to the United States of America.

October 29.

A letter of the 26th from the honourable P. J. Van Berekel was read; whereupon

Resolved, That the audience to be given to the said minister be postponed till Friday next.

October 31, 1783.

According to order, the honourable P. J. Van Berekel, minister plenipotentiary from their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands, was admitted to an audience:

And upon being introduced he addressed Congress in a speech, of which the following is a translation:

Gentlemen of the Congress, PREVIOUS to my laying before you the commission with which their High Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands have honoured me, permit me to express the joy I feel on finding myself this day in this assembly, and meeting those illustrious men whom the present age admires, and whom posterity will always point to as models of patriotism, and whose merits eternity itself can alone recompense.—

While all Europe kept its eyes fixed on your exploits, their High Mightinesses could not refrain from very tenderly interesting themselves therein, recollecting as they always did the dangers and difficulties to which their forefathers were subjected, before they could free themselves from the yoke in which they were enthralled. They knew better than any other the worth of independence, and they knew better to set a just value on the greatness of your designs. They applauded your generous enterprize, which was inspired by a love of your country, conducted with prudence and supported

with heroic courage; and they rejoiced at the happy success which crowned your labours.

In order to convince you of their affection, and the part they take in whatever regards your republic, my ministers have charged me to congratulate you on the accomplishment of your desire, which had for its object the power of your own absolute will, and the enjoyment of that inestimable and natural treasure, which places you in the rank of sovereign and independent powers.

How flattering is it to me to find myself this day the organ and interpreter of the sentiments and dispositions of my masters, and to have it in my power to assure you, on their behalf, that there is nothing which they more ardently wish than the happiness of your republic and the establishment of the union of your States! May this union, founded on the principles of true patriotism, and a love for the public good, be cemented in such a manner, that neither false ambition, jealousy, or private interest, may ever be able to do it the least injury! May the administration of a wise and prudent government dispense happiness and plenty among the people, and give them a glory extended from pole to pole, and as lasting as ages.

Gentlemen, Their high mightinesses are not content with sending compliments of congratulation, which are in themselves unfruitful, but being convinced that an intercourse of commerce and mutual good will are the surest means of binding closer the sacred bonds of friendship, which already unite you together, they have commanded me to assure you that they have nothing nearer at heart, than to labour effectually to render this friendship fruitful and profitable, and to contribute as far as possible to the aggrandizement of an ally, from whom they promise themselves the same efforts. This is a sketch, but a very feeble and imperfect sketch, of the sentiments of my masters, whose sincerity surpasses expression, but which is however manifested in the letter I shall have the honour to deliver you. This, gentlemen, this is the purport of the mission with which they have honoured me. May it be in my power worthily to answer their expectation, and at the same time to gain your affection and confidence, which are so necessary for the success of my undertaking; as to myself, without guile and without artifice, I shall always conduct myself with that rectitude, candour, and cordiality, which form the distinguishing character of a true republican, and which is at the same time the best security for my attaining the point of my ambition, which is that of gaining the approbation of Congress the friendship of its members, and the esteem of the United States of America.

He then delivered the letter from their High Mightinesses the States General, of which the following is a translation:

TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in CONGRESS assembled.

Our friends and allies, WITH very great satisfaction did we, by the reception of the honourable Mr. Adams, your minister with our States, acknowledge the independence of your republic; and with equal and much greater delight have we received the pleasing tidings of the conclusion of the preliminary articles of peace, by which the court of Great-Britain has declared you free and independent States. We have long ardently wished for this happy period, having for several years past with sorrow seen the troubles and difficulties with which you were obliged to struggle. And we do most cordially congratulate you on this happy event, sincerely taking a share in your present agreeable situation.

To give a testimony of our sentiments in this respect, and to convince you of our unfeigned esteem, we have thought it proper to send to you an envoy extraordinary; we have for that purpose chosen a gentleman of distinction, whose personal qualifications are in great repute among us—the honourable Mr. Peter John Van Berekel, burgomaster of the city of Rotterdam, and a deputy in our assembly. We hope and trust that you will graciously receive this gentleman in quality of our minister plenipotentiary, and when he shall have the honour to deliver you these presents, and to enter into farther negotiations with you, that you will give full faith unto him as unto ourselves, being assured that he will not be able to express in terms too strong the sentiments of esteem and reverence which we have for a long time possessed for that wisdom, courage, and perseverance, by which you have rendered yourselves famous throughout the world.

May God grant that your rising republic may become more and more prosperous; that it may increase in lustre and glory, and subsist to the end of time.

We shall at all times rejoice in your increasing felicity; and we desire nothing more ardently than that we may maintain the strictest friendship and correspondence with you, for the good of the subjects and inhabitants of both countries.

This letter being read, the president returned the following answer to the minister:

SIR, IN a contest for the rights of human nature, the citizens of the United States of America could not but be impressed with the glorious example of those illustrious patriots, who, triumphing over every difficulty and danger, established the liberties of the United Netherlands on the most honourable and permanent basis. Congress, at an early period of the war, sought the friendship of their High Mightinesses; convinced that the same inviolable regard for liberty, and the same wisdom, justice, and magnanimity, which led their forefathers to glory, was handed down unimpaired to their posterity; and our satisfaction was great in accomplishing with them a treaty of amity and commerce on terms so acceptable to both nations.

With the sincerest pleasure, Sir, we receive the honourable testimonials of confidence and esteem of their High Mightinesses, and their affectionate congratulations on the success of our efforts in the sacred cause of liberty.

We assure you, Sir, that it is our earnest desire to unite with their High Mightinesses in every measure which can promote the most unreserved confidence and the most friendly intercourse between two nations, which have vindicated their freedom amidst the most trying scenes of danger and distress, and have been equally blessed by the gracious interposition of Divine

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By his Excellency general and con United States of

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