

MARYLEAND GAZETTE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1785.

H A G U E

DIFFERENT letters from Germany give confirmation to the rumour respecting the probability of an amicable accommodation of the differences between the emperor and the republic. The letters add, that on the 5th instant a courier arrived at Siadam-hof with dispatches for the Imperial commissary, countermmanding the orders for procuring provisions for the Austrian troops destined for the Netherlands, and advising that the march of those troops was postponed. Letters from Vienna also assert, that the above orders were revoked immediately after the fitting of a council of war, convened at eight at night of the 2d instant, upon the arrivals of couriers from Versailles and Berlin. It is said with the greatest confidence, that the king of France has written a letter with his own hand, to prevail upon the emperor to relinquish his design of engaging in hostilities with the republic.

They write from Kruifhans, that the Austrians had made preparation for erecting a battery opposite the fort, but that the banks raised to guard the works from inundation, broke in the night of the 11th instant, and defeated the project.

Nov. 26 We have no certain accounts yet of the march of any Austrian troops, excepting two or three regiments, which were in garrison in the Brigau, who not having a very great rout to undertake, may possibly, without much difficulty, reach Brabant: but as to the rest of the troops necessary to the formation of an army of 80,000 men, it is highly improbable that they should set out on so long a journey in such a season.

AMSTERDAM, Nov. 15. We learn from Utrecht, that the colleges of state of that province, at the requisition of the citizens, and agreeable to the principles of the union, have determined to arm all the inhabitants both of the country and towns, from the age of 18 to 60; and it is expected that this mode of armament will be general in the republic. The city of Gauda has made the same proposition in the states of Holland.

PARIS, Nov. 15. The military preparations here cannot be longer concealed. It is generally agreed, that two armies will march, one towards Flanders, and the other towards Alsace: the first to be of 60,000, and the other of 40,000 men. It is even said that the king will in person head the Flanders army.

Nov. 21. It is said that M. de Vergennes, son of the minister, is set out for Vienna.

FRANKFORT, Nov. 20. Letters from the Austrian Low-Countries, nevertheless, breathe nothing but war as well as those from Vienna and Germany: They assure that orders have been received to prepare every thing for an army of 90,000 men; that they expect there several regiments in the beginning of next month; that the regiment of Bender is already on its march, and will arrive first, being the nearest, and coming from Brigau; that bargains are making with different contractors for provisions of every kind; that the count de Ferraris has been appointed commander in chief of the artillery in the Low-Countries, &c.

L O N D O N, Otober 18.

A heifer, four years old, being the most curious production of nature ever exhibited, has lately been carried about the country to gratify the curious. This very surprising creature has two heads, four horns, four eyes, four ears, four nostrils, through each of which it breathes, &c. and what is more surprising, it takes its sustenance with both mouths at the same time. One of the heads, together with the horns, represent that of a bull, and the other of a cow. This heifer has had the inspection of the royal society, and the principal gentlemen of the faculty in London, and by them universally allowed to be the most astonishing phenomenon in nature.

Nov. 27. It was the general report yesterday, that the courts of London, Paris, and Berlin, have offered their joint mediation in the affairs of Holland and the emperor, to prevent a war.

The Hessian troops, and those from Waldeck, which we had in pay the last war, are now subsidized by the emperor.

Some Swiss troops are going into the service of the Dutch.

The Dutch will certainly not surrender the navigation of the Scheldt; therefore there can be no foundation for a pacific treaty. To give up this point, would be to abandon their best commercial interests, and provide for the ruin of their country.

Dec. 1. The Hague Gazette of Friday, contains a representation made by the prince of Orange to the

States General, in which he sets forth, that the critical situation of the republic having made it, in his opinion, necessary to assemble the troops belonging to the state, and consequently withdraw them from those parts which are least exposed to a hostile attack, he had sent an order to his own regiment of Orange Friesland, as likewise to two squadrons of the regiment of lieutenant-general Stavinilla Pons, to evacuate their respective garrisons, and had written a letter to the states of Friesland, setting forth his reasons for this step; at the same time representing, that till the present year he had, with the consent and approbation of the said states, enjoyed the privilege of marching out the troops garrisoned in that province; but he had, to his great surprise, received a rescript, in which, though they consent to the marching of the two squadrons, they insist on keeping the regiment of Orange Friesland. The prince further represents, that he had met with a like refusal from the states of Groningen. He then lays before their high mightinesses, the ill consequences such conduct must be attended with, and concludes with a request, that the treaty with the collector of Cologne and bishop of Munster being signed, the states would give orders for the march of the auxiliary troops.

Extract of a letter from Drogheda, November 20.

Wednesday evening last, colonel Dillon, of the Skreen corps, accompanied by Mr. Fisher, sub sheriff of the county of Meath, came to this town, and waited on Thomas Chamney and Patrick Magauran, Esquires, officers of the artillery corps belonging to the Drogheda association, and requested their assistance to dispossess a number of lawless fellows, who had taken possession of the castle of Lagore, in the county of Meath, in order to prevent the high sheriff from taking possession of the lands adjoining.—As the castle is exceeding strong, and being well provided with arms, ammunition and provisions, these men bid defiance to any body of volunteers with arms that could be brought against them, and in this manner kept possession of the castle for near a month.—Captain Chamney and lieutenant Magauran, informed colonel Dillon, they were always ready to support the constitution of their country, and a due execution of the law; accordingly the corps left this town on the morning following, (Thursday) and about twelve o'clock took possession of a rising ground within a small distance of the castle, and waited for the arrival of the high sheriff and the Skreen corps, in order that the attack might be conducted with every necessary precaution; but these fellows being informed by an out-look, of the force that was ready to attack them, they thought it advisable to quit their situation, and retired in small bodies from the rear of their fort; information of this having been brought to the volunteer army, the sheriff, attended by the officers, went and took possession of the castle and lands.—Lord Killeen, colonel Dillon, and the high sheriff, returned the artillery company their sincere thanks, after which captain Gorges insisted on the corps going to the house, where they were entertained in a splendid and elegant manner. About 8 o'clock the corps marched into town, after a fatiguing march of 30 miles.

Dec. 2.—4. Some of the French garrisons in Flanders, which lie towards the frontiers of Germany, have been reinforced, and a particular survey been made of the state of the fortifications.

The emperor refuses all mediation and negotiation till the Scheldt is allowed to be opened, so that the Dutch must make a concession of a most humiliating kind, and then treat for further surrenders; this cannot be expected from a proud, sullen, obstinate, and tenacious people.

The Dutch are full of life, activity, and bustle; their very genius seems to have departed from them, and left no cold remains behind. They know that the emperor is determined to persevere, and therefore act like men who must rather confide in their own exertions, than any foreign alliance whatever.

Letters from Amsterdam, dated November 22, declare that the States General, in order to preserve the general peace of Europe, had offered to enter into a treaty of mediation with his imperial majesty; but the advices say, that monarch had declared, his opening the navigation of the Scheldt should be a sine qua non, before any matter of a pacific nature should be agitated by the minister of either party; and that being granted, he had no objection to leave his other claims, which are numerous and important, to be adjusted by the mediating powers, Prussia, France, and Great-Britain.

Though nothing decisive has yet taken place between the emperor and the Dutch, and notwithstanding this suspension of hostilities has given a pacific appearance to the last foreign mails, yet we have good reason for asserting, that a rupture is in-

evitable, unless the Dutch consent to the surrender of the Scheldt. This is the point—for the emperor has pledged himself in the strongest manner, that he will not even treat for peace, unless this concession is first made on the part of the States General. The public may rest assured, no mediation has yet taken place; neither is the imperial system altered with respect to a war.

Great apprehensions are entertained in Paris, that a war will certainly take place, in which France must be concerned. Some of the older politicians think that the emperor means to revive some old pretensions to a part of the French territories; and that he will be supported in those claims by the queen's party, which dictates to the king in all public matters that are agitated in the cabinet.

The Dutch and Brussels gazettes arrived yesterday, bring nothing new respecting the emperor and States General, saying that the latter have offered to indemnify the subjects of Austrian Flanders, for the losses sustained in inundating their country, if the emperor will agree to an accommodation.

The last papers from Holland are full of speculation, and deserve very little confidence. The emperor is employed in forming treaties with the German princes, which accounts for the deliberation of his measures, but is still determined to obtain what he has demanded, or appeal decisively to the sword.

B A L L O O N.

The ingenious Mr. Blanchard, having been disappointed by the weather on Monday; and the weather clearing up unexpectedly yesterday morning, he used the utmost diligence in gratifying the curiosity of a prodigious multitude, by ascending from the Rhedarium, in Park-street, Grosvenor-square, about a quarter before three o'clock. He was accompanied by an American gentleman, (an evening paper says Dr. Jefferies) and proposed to make very different observations from those which have amused us from another voyager. The wind was westerly, inclining a few points to the north; and it blew so gently that it required very little of that skill which Mr. Blanchard is known to possess, to keep him at the elevation which would be most likely to gratify the whole town, the utmost length of which he must have traversed. Over Grosvenor-square and other places which must have appeared to him to be crowded, he rendered his balloon nearly stationary, waved his flag, and politely saluted the company, which rent the air with their acclamations.

Though another man has profited by the public favour, for having been the first who visited our variable atmosphere, Mr. Blanchard is by far the most expert and accomplished aerial traveller we have seen in England. Besides being an exquisite mechanic, he is the inventor of that species of oars or wings, which alone have been hitherto found of any material utility. He is sufficiently a philosopher to know the use of a thermometer, barometer, compass, &c. which another traveller it seems forgot. We should not have hinted at these points of comparison, if Mr. Blanchard's merit had been properly distinguished.

The whole neighbourhood of Grosvenor-square was astonishingly crowded by the best and worst company of the land. We are glad to find the prince of Wales loses no opportunity of countenancing these scientific attempts. Knowledge is friendly to both public and private; and is the best instrument to rescue a young man from bad company and bad councils.

Soon after Mr. Blanchard's balloon was launched, two small balloons were let off, which ascended perpendicularly with great velocity. They passed the large balloon, which at that time was going almost horizontally; and thereby proved that the large balloon was not under the influence of the wind, but under that of Mr. Blanchard himself who was guiding it.

About three o'clock the balloon passed over the city, in an eastern direction. Several reports were circulated last night of its descent; but none were authentic when this paper went to press.

The weather being hazy, prevented the inhabitants of the city having a distinct view of the balloon, while it was passing over the metropolis. When the balloon was at a considerable height, the exercise of the oars was plainly perceived, which seemed evidently to accelerate Mr. Blanchard's motion. He expressed a determination to let it take as far a course as possible, while he had a ray of light to guide him. He was provided with sufficient refreshments, instruments for observations, and defences against the cold and inclemency which he expected to experience.