

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, F E B R U A R Y 23, 1786.

N A P L E S, September 22.

SOME officers of the tribunals of justice having been so imprudent as to violate the privileges of ambassadors, by arresting in the hotel of the English minister, a person accused of murder, and who had taken refuge there, that minister complained to the court, who immediately ordered the authors of this trespass to be arrested, and to be dealt with as the minister shall think proper.

V E N I C E, October 2

The senate have received some further advice of the success with which their squadron, under the chevalier Emo, bombarded some places of the regency of Tunis. Many houses in the city of Sufa were destroyed, and the inhabitants saved themselves only by flight. The Tunisians are fortifying themselves, and preparing for a vigorous defence; while the squadron of the republic is preparing to attack them again, and with so much the more advantage, as they have discovered a favourable spot, hitherto unknown, from whence they can throw bombs into the city with much more success than before.

L I S B O N, October 11.

According to letters from Algiers, all the pirates of that nation have returned into their ports, two only excepted. It is supposed that they will not come out of them before the negotiations between the court of Spain and the dey are terminated. It is said, that M. d'Epilly has already set out with the ultimatum of the court of Spain, and we are very curious to learn, whether the Algerines will consent to the propositions of that court, relative to a suspension of arms with Portugal, with a view to conclude afterwards the peace under the mediation of Spain.

V I E N N A, October 8.

While the affairs of Holland appear to be settled, our minister is occupied entirely in answering the declaration of the king of Prussia; without entering on the question, whether there is or is not actually a design on foot for the exchange of Bavaria, he proves that it is not only possible, but admissible and legal in every respect. This declaration, which must be made as public as that from Berlin, will soon be submitted to the inspection of Europe. We hear that the king of Prussia has done every thing in his power to detach the empress from the emperor, and that he has sent to her a long representation of the preponderating influence of the house of Austria, and that the equilibrium, or balance of power, must be destroyed. But the court of Russia has sent such an answer to his majesty as is moderate, yet speaks the invariable attachment of her majesty to her august ally.

L O N D O N, October 27.

The revolutions which have occurred since the beginning of the present century are highly worthy the attention, not only of the retired philosopher, but the active politician. The Russian empire has started from a state of torpor into life and action. The genius of one man, the king of Prussia, has raised in Germany a counter-balance to the imperial house of Austria. The prince of Georgia has rendered himself independent on Persia on the one hand, and Turkey on the other. The authority of the Porte, over the chiefs that govern its distant dependencies, is shaken; and the languor and lassitude of the mighty empire of Ottomans seem symptoms of pregnancy, which predict the birth of new kingdoms.

If we turn our eyes to the western hemisphere, we behold still more striking marks of revolution. The North-Americans have asserted their own independency, and spread the flame of liberty to Spanish America, and to Ireland. The infection of this great example has not yet spent its force, but must continue to operate throughout ages, and to form a considerable ingredient in the active fermentation and the history of nations.

On the other hand, free states have lost their liberty, and swelled the growing consequence of their powerful neighbours; or fallen a victim to internal treachery and usurpation. Corsica is added to the dominions of France. The Genevese, a people that exhibited the most beautiful picture in miniature of the spirit and genius of liberty, have in fact become dependent on the same great monarchy. The Poles are divided among the Prussians, Russians, and Austrians; and the states of Sweden have bowed down before the prevailing power of a standing army.

With respect to Great-Britain, the short space of ten years has proved how much she is subject to the vicissitude which is incident to all nations; America lost by her pride! and Ireland by her timidity! the East-Indies threatened by France, and her West India islands by the same power, in alliance with America! In the mean time, that crouching spirit which succeeded so rapidly to the domineering tone which followed her successes in the war concluded in 1763, still preponderates in her councils, and it must continue to invite the attacks of our public enemies.

Nov. 7. The ships which are now under orders of equipment for the East-India and Mediterranean stations, under the commands of the commodores Cosby and Gill, are ordered to take out a number of seamen above their own complement, in order to reinforce the crews of the men of war which are already on those stations, the ships in the East-Indies being particularly straitened for hands, a circumstance which has been represented to the admiralty board by admiral Sir Edward Hughes since his arrival in England, and has occasioned the above order.

A prodigious increase of trade is projected by the East India company. In the two last years, thirteen, and twenty-five ships, have been sent from this country; but next year it is proposed, that the company's equipment shall be extended to thirty-six ships, twenty-five of which are destined for China or the tea trade; an accumulation which must astonish our envious neighbours, and be attended with the most happy consequences to the trade of this nation!

Nov. 8. A very singular phenomenon has been lately discovered in the island of Mullingar—A ship's company had sent a detachment on shore for water; but evening approaching, and they not having time to travel to a river, from which they had been usually supplied, had resolved upon returning to the ship, and suspending their supply till the next day. About two miles from the shore, part of a rock was exposed, which one of the men accidentally striking with an iron crow, there suddenly issued a stream of the most pure fresh water. Upon pursuing this discovery, it appeared, that a continued bed of rock lay throughout this island, which, when broke, in some places afforded excellent water, but in almost every instance tolerably good.

Nov. 9. That some desperate ruffians were hired on Wednesday to mix with the lord mayor's procession, and that for the worst of purposes, will appear from the following circumstance; about ten minutes after the attack had been made on Mr. Pitt's carriage in Cheapside, three ill-looking, dirty fellows (one of whom had a deep cut in his cheek, and seemingly in great pain) came into a public house in Fleet-lane, and while they were drinking, one says to the other, "D--n me, Bob, a little higher, and he'd have done your glim;" meaning that he would have lost his eye. "Yes, replied the fellow, thanks to that awkward fool, Ned, for this, (putting his hand to his face) but how he could miss Pitt, I can't imagine; for the flints were all fitted to our hands, and I am sure there were enough to choose from; but I wish, as it happened, they had not been made so sharp." Hence it is evident that these fellows had been selected, not for the mere party views of hissing and hooting the minister, but for the more diabolical and savage purposes of bloodshed and murder.

At Guildhall on Wednesday last, Mr. Pitt declared that if any of the city members on the opening of parliament would move for a repeal of the shop tax, he would not oppose it; and the lord chancellor immediately replied, that he was in great hopes that the taxes would be sufficiently productive to do without either the shop tax or any substitutes.

Extract of a letter from Copenhagen, October 16.

"The prince royal, who is gone a tour into Germany, is expected home by the conclusion of the month, as we learn a stop is put to his further progress through Europe till the spring, when he is again expected to set off on a visit to all the courts with whom the king is in alliance: it is probable, in some of these visits, his highness may form such connexions as may secure to him the throne in the present line."

It is a fact no less pleasing than true, that on making up the last quarter's account of the taxes to Michaelmas, a surplus of no less a sum than 730,000l. appeared, and this entirely from the produce of the old taxes: as the first quarter of the new taxes has not yet been received—Can, therefore,

people at all wonder at the present rise of our national funds?

A letter from the Hague, dated November 21, says, the true reason is now certainly known why the count de Mercy made a difficulty of ratifying the preliminary articles. That minister said, that he had received notice from the emperor, that his master fully approved of the preliminaries, such as they had been signed: and that his authorizing the count to negotiate the definitive treaty with the ambassadors of the republic at Paris, on the footing of the said preliminaries, had superseded all necessity for a ratification or exchange of them, his imperial majesty being above all things desirous that the treaty of peace with the states general should be concluded as soon as possible. We learn, adds the letter, that the conferences have been already renewed: thus the hopes of the anti-republican party, that a rupture would ensue, is once more deceived.

Nov. 10. We hear there has been a mutiny of the 52d regiment in India. Colonel Strubenzo narrowly escaped their rage: they took possession of a small fort, and broke open the magazine; 2000 seapoys were sent against them, but they shut the gates, pointed two pieces of cannon which they had in the fort, and bid them defiance; but by the interposition of some of their officers, and a promise that their pay should be instantly given them, they were prevailed on to return to their duty.

In a garden near Liverpool, a few days since, was found a cabbage of two months growth, which weighed twenty five pounds, and there are now several more of the same age, that in a short time will, in all probability, exceed the former.

As the Portuguese have taken the alarm at the negotiations of a treaty of commerce, now carrying on between Great-Britain and France, it is to be hoped in all our future transactions with that people, care will be taken to tie them down from making innovations hereafter, in the commercial regulation they shall agree to; our Lisbon and Oporto merchants having for a considerable time past experienced several disagreeable changes, which neither they, or many others, could resist, especially as it is still fresh in the memory of many people, what great benefit Portugal has reaped from its connexion with England.

Nov. 11. The warlike preparations, both by sea and land, continue with such vigour by the court of Petersburg, particularly the raising a new corps of grenadiers and chasseurs, amounting to 35 or 36 000 men, seem to indicate a design to commence hostilities the ensuing spring; but against what power they will be directed is yet a problem among the politicians. Certain it is, that if the empress has no serious design of entering into a war, her immense expences are entirely thrown away: she has too little to dread of the Porte, and is too well acquainted with the disorder which prevails in the Ottoman ministry, to make such preparations, had she no other view than to defend herself in case of an attack. Next spring, however, will discover the plan of the two imperial courts. It is generally thought that Poland is comprehended in the scheme of aggrandisement formed by its two powerful neighbours.

Nov. 14. The French never were known to be employed in making such exertions in the naval line as at present, the ships in their several ordinaris, and those building, amount to 356 sail, of which 114 are of the line of battle, and of these 17 are three deckers, from 90 to 110 guns each. On a survey of their navy since the peace, there were found 27 ships of the line in the worst degree of strength; these have been since completely repaired at Brest and Toulon (except four which are now under repair) and which are in every respect as good as new ships. In January last they had fifty sail in the completest condition for service; they have since added 14 sail more, of which five are so forward, that they have 64 sail of the line, or thereabouts, fit for service; and they are indefatigable in building new, and repairing all their old ships, but particularly the former. At Brest the number of ship-wrights and labourers employed at this very time, according to the best information, are 11000 men, exclusive of the galley slaves, rated at 250 more, who are chiefly employed in the sawing and rendering timber, removing it from different parts, and perpetual cleansing of the basin. The Spaniards have been inspired with something similar, so that the house of Bourbon may, in case of another war, be able to collect 160 sail of the line. This is a plain state of facts, well worthy consideration.

Dec. 16. By the express arrived from India we learn, that what has been reported of Mr. Pitt's bill