

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1786.

H A G U E, January 27.

OUR last letters from Cleves mention, that orders are sent to all the towns and villages of that duchy, to prepare quarters to lodge troops, and soldiers are even to be stationed where no garrisons have been before, such as at Duisburg, Rees, and Emmerick, 1000 men are expected at Creveid, and in proportion in the other places under the Prussian dominions.

Their high mightinesses have determined to shut the Scheld, and collect the duties, when fort Lillo is given up to the Austrian government, in the following manner, viz.

A fort is to be built as soon as possible in the county of Zuid Bevelane, at a place called Badische Kade, and a guardship placed before Saffingen.

That the duties now received at fort Lillo shall be collected at the above fort.

That as the new fort cannot be begun until the weather will permit, and fort Lillo is to be evacuated in six weeks after the ratification of the definitive treaty, the Scheld shall be shut, and the duties collected in the following manner, till the new fort is built.

One of the vessels to be stationed on the Scheld is to be placed before the port of Badische Kade, with the proper commissaries on board to collect the duties, and examine the vessels going up or down that river, in the same manner as is now done at Lillo.

That another vessel, but smaller, shall be stationed at the same place, with commissaries on board to examine and receive the passports of the vessels which would return up the Scheld, to continue their way to Brabant.

The admiralty of the Maese and Zealand are ordered to prepare the necessary vessels to keep the Scheld shut in a speedy and efficacious manner.

L O N D O N, January 10.

A cutter from Gibraltar has brought dispatches from general Elliot, which contain an account of the success he has had with the dey of Algiers, in procuring the liberty of fourteen Englishmen, who were taken on board of a Portuguese ship a year ago, by one of his corsairs, and have been in slavery since that time.

By a private letter brought by the same vessel, we have the following very affecting anecdote.—Among the English prisoners above mentioned, was a young man named John Williams, who, after being set at liberty, went round, visiting the different places where the slaves were confined; on examining one of an emaciated countenance, dragging about a load of irons, he recognized the features of an elder brother, who had been absent a long time, and supposed to have been dead; and on inquiry found him to be the son of his mother, who had groaned a long ten years under the complicated woes of hard servitude, coarse fare and galling chains, till his strength was exhausted and his health ruined.—His discovery caused repeated interviews between the two brothers.—At length the time came when John must depart, his brother not among the ransomed. The idea of leaving him in this situation was more than he could support—his brother must be emancipated, or his freedom was no blessing—to effect it money was necessary, but he had none. Fraternal tenderness now suggested the only possible remedy, which was to buy his brother at the expence of his own liberty: the resolution was taken, and he was not to be diverted.—In vain does the unfortunate brother remonstrate against the proposal, and desires he may leave him. I am young, says John, and have strength to support the fatigues till you recover your health, and by your industry may be enabled to deliver me—or perhaps sooner, by some friends, when they shall know where I am:—whereas a very little time longer, here, will put an end to your existence;—therefore do you go without further reasoning.—I am determined if your master will but accede to the proposal.

With joy the savage monster knocked off the fetters from the worn down slave, and hastily rivetted them on the healthy brother, where he still remains a striking example of fraternal friendship; and it is to be hoped the recital will stir up some benevolent heart to interest itself in the behalf of so noble a youth.

An account of the loss of the Halfewell East-Indiaman, from Mr. Meridon, second mate, and James Thompson, quarter-master of the ship.

The pilot left the ship on Thursday last at noon; she afterwards sailed down the channel with a fair wind, till about four o'clock on Wednesday morn-

ing, when there came on a very hard gale, with a heavy fall of snow, by which the ship received so much damage, as to admit about six feet water into the hold. That about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, when they thought they were between the Lizard and Start points, they cut away the main and mizen-masts. That they afterwards wore ship, and endeavoured to make Portsmouth under jury masts. They stood up channel Wednesday afternoon, and all the day on Thursday. In the afternoon of that day (Thursday), a heavy gale blew from the south, which by degrees drove them on a lee-shore which they could not on any tack avoid. That between one and two o'clock on Friday morning, they saw land and came to anchor, at which they rode for about an hour; that having either drove or parted one anchor, they let go the only one left them, with which they could not bring up the ship, as the hurricane increased. That in this state she drove upon the rocks at the Head Land of St. Alban's, about three leagues to the East of Portland, and in less than an hour was dashed in pieces.

That thirty-four seamen and twenty-two soldiers were saved, some by getting upon the rock, and others upon pieces of the wreck. Amongst the saved are the second mate Mr. Meridon, third and sixth mates, cockswain, one midshipman, a Mr. McDougal.

Ladies who perished with the ship, Miss Pierce, and Miss Mary Pierce, two Miss Pauls, sisters to Mrs. Templar, Miss Graham, Miss Hagget, and Miss Blackburne.

Had they been fortunate enough to have drove clear of that Head Land, they would have got into Swanage or Strickland bay, where they might have had safe anchorage under the weather.

Mr. Meridon was drove from on board the Halfewell on the rock, by a very heavy sea breaking over the ship, just before which captain Pierce asked him if he thought any thing could be done for the safety of the ladies; he replied, it was impossible. Upon which the captain addressing himself to his daughters, and enfolding them in his arms, said, then, my dear children, we will perish together; the ship disappeared in a few minutes.

Mr. Thompson, the quarter-master, was the first who climbed up the rock and got on shore, he saw a light about a mile off, whether he went: the people very humanely came down with him to the shore with ropes, which were the means of saving many lives, though several, after being drawn part of the way up the rock, from fatigue, let go their hold, and were dashed to pieces.

Captain Pierce, of the Halfewell East-Indiaman, was not only an excellent seaman, but an excellent swimmer, and it is highly probable he might have saved his life, had he not taken the magnanimous resolution of perishing with his daughters and nieces.

Jan. 12. Our French correspondent sends us the following intelligence: M. Du Pont, director of the balance of trade, and well known for the confidence placed in him by the celebrated Turgot, is now employed in a most interesting and philosophic labour, which has for object a general amnesty to be granted to all the protestants whose ancestors emigrated in 1683. The French manufactories (says our informant) would then thrive beyond expression, and the return of sheep, so cruelly chased from the flock in the days of ignorance and superstition, would in this enlightened age prove the triumph of sound reason and philosophy.

Mr. Houdon is returned from Philadelphia, and is now in Paris. He has brought general Washington's bust with him to Europe; it is pronounced by connoisseurs to be a most striking likeness. This well known artist is commissioned by congress to make two statues in honour of the American hero, both of bronze; one an equestrian statue, and the other a pedestrial one. The task that Mr. Houdon has taken on himself will require a long time before it is executed.

There are several commodities we import from Russia with which we cannot dispense; nor can they be had any where else at so good a market, or in such perfection. The empress has, also a strong predilection for many of the commodities of this country. She is sensible that several of them are much superior in point both of quality and cheapness to any she can procure in any other country. It is not likely, therefore, that a person of her imperial highness's political sagacity will be so unwise as to discourage the importation of British manufactures, merely because the king of Great-Britain, as elector of Hanover, has joined the German confederacy against the emperor; in other words, because he has

become one in the number of those who have formed a league, fraught with the most beneficial tendencies to every state in Europe.

The world is busy about commerce and commercial treaties, and the British cabinet is not idle. The activity of their minds is diverted from Ireland, and employed in negotiations with foreign courts; and chiefly with France. It is indeed very much to be wished that the two first nations in the world would lay aside those narrow and impolitic jealousies of trade, and open their ports freely to one another for the reception of such articles as are the natural produce of each; (for the navigation laws, Britain must still support, on such terms as are necessary for the finances or revenues of both countries). Let the French open their vineyards to us, and let us open to them our pastures. If our fashionable gentlemen and ladies are delighted with the fineries of France, let them have them; if the ladies and gentlemen of France are enamoured of English carriages, and other furniture, let them also have them. If there should be a decline in any branch of manufacture in either kingdom at first, the general mass of industry would soon find a level for itself in both; and flow in the most natural, which will also be found, in the long run, the most profitable channels.

Francis Storer, lately executed in the Old Bailey, had twice before been capitally convicted, and received mercy on condition of working seven years upon the hulks, where he behaved with so much propriety, that he obtained his discharge at the end of four years, in consequence of a fit of sickness. At the place of execution, he solemnly declared the evidence against him tempted him to follow his old courtes, and acknowledged being concerned in robbing the right honourable William Pitt's house, some time since, of a large quantity of plate. On some questions being put to him by a gentleman just before he mounted the scaffold, he also owned his having been privy to the stealing of the great seal; but refused telling who the robbers were, saying they were alive, and he trusted would be admonished by his misfortune, and repent of their crimes.

It is not ascertained that government mean at all to make it an official matter, to institute any inquiry into the American war. Such an object may well wait for the discussion of more gratifying topics, of topics yet more important to the general interests of the community.

The king of Prussia looks yet with a menacing aspect at the Dutch, and seems to be taking some more serious steps than words and threats. May we keep out of the fray!

Our courtiers and patriots have not yet looked one another full in the face, nor measured length of tongues or strength of lungs. The minister or somebody for him, throws out expectation of great matters for next week. The stockjobbers do not seem to have great faith in his impending schemes. As for us, we will prejudge nothing, but shall be glad to see every thing that makes for our country's present and permanent welfare, come from where it may.

The new treaty with France sacrifices the commerce of this kingdom to a prospect of peace, and a continuance thereby of the present men in power. This is the real and bona fide object of ministers. Our navy is to be lessened, and our militia reduced, under a promise from France that they shall do the same. France is remarkable for never adhering to national promises. There are some hopes, however, from the chamber of commerce, that this iniquitous treaty will meet with a strong opposition, and that the endeavours of that patriotic body of men will be as successful on this occasion as they were on the Irish business, which though they did not succeed in at the bar of the British senate, yet they so far effected as to deter ministers from pursuing. Our property was therefore saved; and the prospect of a security to our trade again placed in public view. The scene, however, is now changed, and France, not Ireland, is to have a share of our wealth. The tradesmen and manufacturers of England are prodd and saucy in the eyes of a prerogative, active administration, and it is therefore the intimation of ministers to lessen their consequence by administering their wealth.

It is a peculiar happiness in this country, to have more counsellors than any nation under the sun. We have a cabinet council, a privy council, the grand council of the nation, the common council, besides which, every subject is a counsellor; therefore, with such a multitude of counsellors, it seems morally impossible, that any wrong steps can ever be taken, or any destructive measures pursued; and so it would be, if the generality of mankind were perfect; but, while some are influenced by private