

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, M A Y 25, 1786.

V E N I C E, January 23.

THE senate received fresh advices from the chevalier Emo, purporting that the bey had requested him to repair to Tunis, for the purpose of negotiating a pacific treaty.

V I E N N A, February 8.

The emperor, desirous of abolishing in his states the claims of birthright so prejudicial to the younger branches of families, has ordered divers states of his extensive empire, to adopt such efficacious means that for the future the succession to patrimonial possessions be regulated on the footing of equality between the children of the same father or the same mother.

The emperor extends his attention to the kingdom of Hungary, which he with reason esteems as the brightest jewel of his crown. It, on the one hand, the monarch subjects the Hungarians to the payment of tributes and taxes which they were unused to before the present reign, he neglects nothing to facilitate the means of their acquiring affluence and ease, which they employ with success.

His majesty hath ordered an early communication to be opened between Hungary and his other states, and even between the different provinces of that fertile kingdom, by means of highways and canals, to facilitate the interior commerce of the kingdom.

F R A N K F O R T, February 3.

By accounts from Munich we learn, that every endeavour is used there to bring about a good understanding between every branch of the Palatinate house. The elector is in perfect health, and the inhabitants of Bavaria are under no apprehension of any exchange. The elector of Mentz makes no secret of his accession to the Germanic league, and has given orders to his ambassador at the diet to fulfil his charge in the most impartial manner.

L O N D O N, January 23.

A circumstance of a very singular nature occurred a few days ago in the city:—A merchant who had realized a considerable property, happened to have a trifling dispute with his only daughter, and in a violent passion ran to his desk in order to alter his will, and cut her off with a shilling; but his arm was arrested by the hand of Providence; for, on taking the pen, he fell down in an apoplectic fit, and instantly expired; by which accident the lady is now mistress of upwards of twenty thousand pounds.

Feb. 4. Letters from Madrid mention, that government preserves the most profound secrecy with respect to the real state of affairs in the South-American provinces; but that private advices from that quarter of the globe, represent a continuance of the sovereignty of Spain as exceedingly precarious, since the natives have within the last few years afforded numberless proofs of an unanimous and inflexible determination to emancipate themselves from the tyranny of the Spanish government.

Extra of a letter from Bourdeaux, January 22.

The captain of a French ship lately arrived from Rhode-Island says, he was boarded by an Algerine cruiser of 44 guns, and full of men, about nineteen leagues west of the Western Islands, when after detaining him some hours, and taking several articles out of the ship, suffered him to proceed, the next day he was chased by a frigate, carrying the Algerine colours, which mounted thirty-six guns upon one deck, when a fine breeze of wind sprung up, and two ships appeared in sight, the Algerine gave over the chase, and made all the sail she possibly could after those ships; and he further says, that all night he heard a very heavy cannonading.

Feb. 14. On Monday some dispatches were received from Gibraltar, and contain the following account, viz. A large ship from Virginia, bound to

Cadiz, laden with tobacco, was lately captured by an Algerine rover within three leagues of that port, and carried to Algiers; the captain, crew, and several passengers, were all sent into slavery; the rover had a stout Dutch built ship with her, a prize which she took the day before, but the captain and the ship's company escaped in their boats, and got clear off. They farther add, that the Algerines have within a short time fitted out a great number of cruisers, many of them were stout vessels, some carrying upwards of 40 guns, and full of desperate fellows; they are become very formidable, and pay no regard to the flag of any nation except the British, to which they shew the greatest respect and friendship.

Mr. Fox in his speeches on the two first days of the present session, has very severely arraigned the confederacy entered into by the king of England, as elector of Hanover, with the electors of Brandenburg and Saxony, for preserving the integrity of the German empire, and preventing the exchange of Bavaria. Mr. Fox has likewise returned on this occasion to the ancient politics of England, namely, the cementing a strict alliance between the courts of London and Vienna; and he declares, at the same time, that the emperor is the only great ally to whom this country can look for opposing the house of Bourbon. All these facts were asserted, and this line of policy was recommended by Mr. Wrexall five years ago in the house of commons, at a time too when such an alliance might have extricated us from all the disasters of an unfortunate war. Mr. Fox is now become a profelyte to Mr. Wrexall's politics, and their advocate.

A motion is soon to be made to declare a free port in one of the West India islands, and also at the Bahamas. The minister, it is said, is of opinion that Dominica is better situated than Grenada for a great emporium of trade, but the matter will be warmly combated by the friends of each island.

By a letter from Paris we learn, that a few days since, a jeweller of eminence waited upon his majesty, with some curious inuff boxes: a young nobleman, of considerable rank in the regiment of Monsieur, who was then in conference with the king, joined in commendation of the beauty and workmanship of the boxes, till watching an opportunity, he concealed one in the sleeve of his uniform. This being perceived by his majesty, he demanded of the jeweller "whether he had all his boxes?" "Yes, Sire."—"Count them," repeated the king; which being done, the box was missed.—"It is not lost, cried the king, that officer can restore it," and stepping forward, his majesty struck him with his fist.—The disgrace that follows will of course be perpetual.—His commission is to be recalled, and cancelled, and such other marks of odium fixed on him, as the nature of the enormity admits.

The following are the resolutions come to by their high mightinesses to keep shut the Scheld, and preserve the usual duties when fort Lillo shall be surrendered up to the Austrian government:

"That according to the intention of their high mightinesses, a convenient fort shall be erected at the place called Badische Kade, in the county of Sud Bevelane, besides stationing there a guard ship off Sastewen, between Bolbaken, and the place where now stands the Brunswick, lieutenant Janssen, commander, within five or six fathoms of low water.

"That in consequence thereof, custom duties, &c. shall be acquitted at the said fort, as it has been hitherto practised at Lillo, to which purpose the office at that place shall be transferred to the next fort, where all ships coming down or going up the Scheld from the east to the westward shall pay the usual duties, and undergo the customary search; that on board the aforesaid armed ship, there shall constantly attend two officers, for the purpose of searching the vessels which shall be bound from Holland or Zealand with an intention of continuing in their way through the Brabant; as also to examine their passports, as it has hitherto been practised at Lillo.

"That whereas the said fort Lillo is to be evacuated six weeks after the ratification of the treaty with his imperial majesty, and considering that it is impossible within so short a time to begin the intended fort, much less to build the necessary offices and dwellings for the reception of custom-house officers from the admiralties of Holland and Zealand; and that in consequence thereof compters cannot be erected in that place; resolved that the Scheld, in order to prevent all interruption in the receipt of duties, shall

be shut up in the following manner; that is to say:

"That ships shall be stationed on the aforesaid river of the haven of Badische Kade, near the shore, in four or five fathoms of water, having each on board two custom-house officers from Zealand, and one from Holland. That upon proviso the payment of custom duties shall be discharged on board the said ship by the said officers, on all vessels going up or down the Scheld, and that searches will take place as do.c hitherto at Lillo.

"That besides the above, a small ship shall be stationed on the same spot, having on board two more officers from Lillo, viz. one on the part of Zealand, the other on that of Holland, whose business will be to search the vessels going up the Scheld, in their way to Brabant; also to visit the passports, as is practised by the ships at Lillo, and to stand as it were the last guard for the said customs, that the latter may be exposed to no fraud.

"And finally, that orders shall be given by the admiralties of the Meuse and Zealand, for the fitting out accordingly the requisite ships, that the blocking up the Scheld may, *casu quo*, be effected in the best and speediest manner possible."

Feb. 20. By a letter from Bar-le-Duc, in Lorraine, we have the following intelligence, which is announced to be a fact: "The public executioner of Landau, who is looked on as an adept in the art of decollating, received an anonymous letter last week from Nancy, the capital of Lorraine, by which he was ordered, on a day appointed, to be at the gate of that town, and to take with him the best axe. He obeyed the order, and when he came to the spot was seized by three armed men, and entreated not to resist; they then blindfolded him, and put him into a post-chaise. After having travelled about twelve hours, he was conducted into an apartment hung round with black, and having many lamps to light it. The napkin with which his eyes were covered, was instantly taken off. A tall man, in a mask, pointed to a person on the floor, whose head was in a sack. The executioner was ordered to strike off the head; he refused. The man threatened him with a brace of pistols; he was at length forced to obey. When the execution was over he received a purse of two hundred louis, was then blindfolded once more, put in the same chaise, and carried to the place where he was taken up. He affirms, that he does not know of what sex the unhappy victim was, nor can he tell where he had been but thinks he crossed the Rhine."

Extra of a letter from Lisbon, February 1.

"A treaty is now negotiating among the Italian and some other powers, at the head of which is her most faithful majesty, for the guarantee and mutual protection of their trade against the piratical states of Barbary; one article of which particularly stipulates, that no presents, bargains, or sale of naval stores, to any of the Barbary states, shall at any time be made by either of the contracting parties, and that they shall jointly keep up a sufficient force in the Mediterranean, and at the mouth of that sea. Other powers, it is conceived, will find their account in joining this league."

Extra of a letter from the Hague, February 8.

"Their high mightinesses are seriously determined to lay hold of the present opportunity of a complete pacification, to put in practice schemes for the benefit of the commerce of the republic, in consequence of which, orders have been sent to the East and West-India companies, to give an account of their affairs, and particularly of the losses they sustained during the late war."

Feb. 23. The measure which the Spanish court has adopted of parting with East-Florida to the French is recommended by sound policy. The ambition of the colonists would perhaps at some future period, urge them to make incursions on the rich territories of their neighbours; and it was thought an instance of wisdom in lord Shelburne, on the late peace, that he did not press for retaining the possession of the Floridas, but resigned them to Spain, that her colonies might border on those of the new states, and enmities and hostilities of course ensue. But if the French agree to purchase East-Florida, or except it in exchange for some cession, they will form a strong barrier and wall of separation, between the new states and the Spanish dominions, and secure the latter from contest and invasion. The activity as well as wisdom discovered by the French, in the management of their American settlements, will render this new colony of infinitely more value, strength, and importance, than it would have been if retained by the indolent Spaniard, who also has already more territory than he can manage. But