

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J U N E 1 5, 1 7 8 6.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 12.

TOWARDS the month of May 1785, a shepherd, attending his flock in a plain near the frontiers of Armenia, was struck by the sudden appearance of a beautiful young man, who bid him follow him, and conducted him into an adjoining thicket to a venerable old personage, who addressed the shepherd in these words:

"I am Mahomet. As my people have relaxed from their wonted fervour, and daily disgrace themselves by the perpetration of the vilest crimes, I first resolved to cast them into the hands of the infidels; yet, full of compassionate concern for the true believers, I have called and chosen thee to be the restorer of my empire. Go thou forth, and declare unto my people the errand I send thee upon. All the faithful Mussulmen will join thee. If any man resist, give him death for his portion. The young man now with thee, and another who is to share with him in the same employment, shall, though invisible to mortal eyes, follow thee wherever thou goest. Thou shalt be called the Victorious Shepherd."

He said, and vanished. In the very next place he comes to the people—acquaints them with his divine mission—they melt at his moving harangues. An aga arrives to disperse the mob—hearkens to him a while, and calls him an impostor. Follow me, said the inspired shepherd—bend to me, or thou diest. The aga smiles contempt, and drops dead on the spot. Another aga is appointed. The new magistrate offers to lay violent hands on the preacher. The aga is struck with sudden death. Superstition triumphs. The people flock about him. They form a little army, with which the shepherd attacks a country town in Georgia, guarded by a tower, which contained four hundred Russians. The new prophet offers their lives to all who will turn Mahometans. Half of the garrison had the weakness to accept; the remaining two hundred were put to the sword.

The Victorious Shepherd presents himself before the three bashaws of Georgia—informs them of his mission—and bids them acquaint sultan Abdulhamid with his intention. The latter's answer was, that he must consult with the grand signior, lest he should expose himself and his family to certain death.

It is the deputation from the aforesaid sultan which has spread such consternation in that city, as the divan did not think proper to take the Victorious Shepherd under their protection. It is said in public, that to this refusal alone are to be attributed the misfortune of the imperial house. All the grand signiors, say they, must perish, and the angel of death is close at their heels. The fact is, whatever the tale may be, that the Victorious Shepherd is at the head of forty thousand Arabs; that he has routed a considerable body of Russians, and that he indiscriminately puts to the sword all those who refuse to embrace the Mahometan religion!

Feb. 25. The new grand vizir, Jousouff Pacha, arrived here on the 22d, from his government of Morea. From the dissatisfaction which the Musti and his adherents had occasioned among the people, there was reason to fear that a disturbance would arise at the installation, but by the care and attention of the captain pacha, all was kept quiet, notwithstanding the performance of the usual pompous ceremonies. The new prime minister immediately entered on the exercise of his office.

ST. ANDERO, (Spain) February 20.

The rectitude of our sovereign's orders, and the protection and favours shewn to American ships in Spain are daily more conspicuous. The Enterprise, captain John Frankford, having arrived here lately from Philadelphia with a loading of flour, some of the sailors offered tobacco for sale, upon which the mayor of the town, Don Juan Pedroso, on suspicion that there was a quantity on board, with other effects omitted in the manifest, delivered in at the custom-house, proceeded with violence to examine and confiscate the ship; but the captain having made his complaint, and government informed of the injustice, sentence was given against the mayor by a mult of 400 ducats, deprivation of his employment, and rendered incapable of serving the king hereafter, all which has been complied with, and the American ship immediately released.

PETERSBURGH, February 25.

The eastern part of this empire, which extends from the Wolga to the frontiers of China by Great Tartary, is at present the least known of any part of the Russian dominions; and it being the pleasure

of our sovereign that these countries should be explored, a caravan of 360 persons is formed to undertake that dangerous journey. This caravan arrived on the 10th of December at Moscow, where nearly as many more persons will join it, and then they will proceed to Cascan, from whence they will descend the Wolga towards the Caspian Sea to enter the deserts, which reach from the north of Bucharra to Selinski towards the frontiers of China.

KLAUJENBERG, February 22.

A violent shock of an earthquake which happened on the 15th of this month, has caused much damage; three bastions were thrown down, and the powder in the magazine fallen into the river Szamos; four of the principal buildings of the fortrefs are also thrown down, and a vast number of houses in the town damaged. Although this calamity has not been repeated, yet the people have not recovered their alarms.

HAGUE, March 25.

The city of Amsterdam having resolved to restore the stadholder the command of the garrison at the Hague, eleven members of the opposite opinion have written a letter accompanied by a memorial to their noble and great powers, in which they avow the motives of their opposition. The equestrian corps, and several towns, have understood this as a notification; but the deputies of Dordrecht, Haerlem, Leyden, and Gouda, have taken a copy of it to lay before their constituents. Those of Amsterdam itself have taken said memorial ad referendum, so that the matter must undergo another investigation.

LONDON, February 16.

The following advice of Monf. Neckar, deserves to be written in letters of gold over the door of every monarch's cabinet: "Do not doubt it, Sire, a prudent administration will be more valuable to you than the most excellent political systems; and if to so much strength, you unite all the sway and influence acquired over other nations, by a distinguished character of justice and moderation, you will enjoy at once, the greatest glory and the most formidable power. Alas, Sire, present this magnificent spectacle to the world; and then, if you desire triumphal arches, shew yourself in your provinces, and preceded by the fame of your goodness, appear surrounded with the blessings of your people and the heart felt acclamations of a sensible nation, made happy by its sovereignty."

The Irish, says a correspondent, are fully convinced of the necessity which subsists of entering into some sort of commercial alliance with Great-Britain. No conviction of any point ever was either more general or more lively than that which they feel. Even the most violent members of opposition remark with regret the unfavourable condition in which their nation stands with regard to trade. They acknowledge that something ought and must be done to render the people comfortable and independent—dependent as to wealth, which is that sort of independence which contributes the most to national felicity. It is much more than probable that they have long since done penance for their superfluous conduct, at the time when the most precious of all boons was held out to them by government; and if their pride will but suffer them, there is no doubt but that they will be very forward to propose some succedaneum for the measure which they rejected. At all events they will urge the expediency of some one doing so, and that speedily.

March 11. A letter from Greenock, dated Feb. 22, says, "Under an opinion that it is the design of the legislature to give some signal encouragement to the fisheries, a number of barques are preparing at this and other ports, to be employed in the herring and cod fisheries the ensuing season; if this is fully prosecuted, 10,000 seamen may be kept in North Britain only, for contingencies."

March 15. The intelligence from Halifax, which was announced to have been received some days ago, has been concealed with great care from the public. We understand, however, that there has been a considerable tumult at Newfoundland, occasioned by a number of American fishermen, who disturbed our people, and carried off a large quantity of fishing tackle and other things.

It is not to be supposed that the late depredations committed by the American fishermen on the British property at Newfoundland, are countenanced by the congress. If they did countenance them in acts of theft and robbery, they would expose themselves to the contempt and vengeance of all the world. Being more civilized, they would be more reproachable than the inhabitants on the coast of Barbary.—At

all events there is reason to presume, that if damage has been sustained, ample restitution will be made for it.

March 20. Every effort is at work to raise a commotion in India. Destroy the India bill, and you destroy the minister, is the cry; and the honourable means by which this is to be effected is, by aiding the Asiatics as the Americans are aided, whose best friends, whose most powerful advocates, and those who fought most bravely for them, never stirred from home! Battles were fought, troops were defeated, armies were captured; at home! The confirmation only came from America.

M. de Peynier, who is arrived at Rochfort from India, in the St. Michael, has brought important intelligence to the French ministers of the present state of affairs there, particularly with respect to the differences subsisting between Tippoo Saib and the government of Pondicherry.

March 21. The sudden apparition of the beautiful young damsel sailing through the air at an elevation of about four hundred feet, produced yesterday an astonishing effect on the petrified multitude.—It was one of Mr. Enstien's air figures, now exhibiting at the Pantheon, from the roof of which it was let off at two o'clock, and took its direction to the north-west. A correspondent, who saw it pass over St. Giles's, says, the figure made a charming appearance in the air, and constantly remained upright.

March 31. Advices from the Hague of the 21st ult. say, that during the late disturbances (in which the cause of the stadholder, if not totally ruined, has suffered considerably) a courier extraordinary arrived at the French ambassador's from Paris, whose dispatches announce, that his most christian majesty, desiring to contribute towards every thing that can maintain the liberty and independence of the states general, his allies, promises to oppose, as much as may depend on him, the interference of any foreign power to disturb their high mightinesses in the arrangement of their domestic affairs.

April 1. The following singular circumstance, a correspondent assures us, took place a short time since. A young gentleman of distinction having lost a considerable sum of money was so exceedingly affected by it, that he determined on an act of suicide, in order to relieve him from his distress. Filled with this idea, he put a case of pistols in his pockets, and proceeding to a tavern, he ordered a room and a bottle of claret, with pen, ink, and paper. He then wrote a letter to an intimate friend, describing his unhappy state, which he declared himself unable any longer to bear; told him, that by the time the letter reached him he should be out of his misery, and concluded with some requests as a last proof of his friendship. Having dispatched his letter, he laid his pistols on the table, and being exceedingly thirsty, and seeing the wine standing before him, he very naturally drank a glass. The refreshment thus afforded him tempted him to repeat it; he took a third, and in brief, four or five glasses gave such a happy turn to his thoughts by exhilaration, that he deferred his rash purpose, until his friend burst into the room, with the utmost anxiety! instead of seeing the letter-writer weltered in his blood, he saw him sitting at the table musing with great composure. He instantly removed the pistols! they finished the bottle together, and the despairing man went home, reconciled to himself and to that life which he had so recently determined to renounce.

April 3. The appearance of a shepherd to the Turks in Georgia, pretending to be commissioned from Mahomet, to suppress vice and establish the true religion, has excited such a ferment among the people, that nothing could ever equal it but the insurrections in this capital in June, 1780. Numbers of Russians have fallen a sacrifice to Turkish superstition, and fire and sword are again propagating the principles of the holy prophet. The policy of the divan promoted the imposition, but their fears prevent them from publicly espousing the cause of the impostor.

April 5. An old man in the county of Durham, was afflicted about two years ago with a mortification in his feet, so as to be confined to his chair for 12 months or more, in the course of which he lost two of his toes, his legs were dreadfully swelled, so much as to make him be looked upon as incurable; after trying various medicines to no visible effect, he was by some means advised to eat honey in large quantities, which he did to the quantity of eight or nine pounds a week: the consequence of which was, that in little more than half a year his legs returned to their natural state, the mortification was stopped,