

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J U L Y 27, 1786.

V I E N N A, April 9.

THEY write from Constantinople, that the Turks are exasperated beyond all bounds of discretion whenever they hear the coronation of the empress of Russia at Cherson mentioned.

April 29. We are credibly informed that the Russian ambassador has announced, that a rupture between Russia and the Porte is on the eve of commencing.

L E G H O R N, April 26.

The last letters from Sicily mention, that the Venetian squadron, commanded by the chevalier Emo, is sailed with every appearance of going direct to Tunis, with an intention, if possible, of taking the fort of Gullet.

L O N D O N, April 4.

It is certainly determined in the cabinet to send a minister to the United States of America. It is to be hoped a man of strong active genius will be chosen for this important mission; one who is well acquainted with the commercial interests of this country, and who will steadily support them.

April 17. An ingenious physician at Bath, who has for some time employed himself in making experiments upon different kinds of air, has discovered that not only charcoal, but candles, lamps, wood, turf, and coal fires, foul the air of the apartments in which they are burned, in a very great degree.

Dr. Priestly has lately found that water is essential to the production of inflammable air, and that charcoal and iron when intensely hot have so strong an affinity to water, that they will attract it in the midst of the greatest fire and even through the pores of a glass retort.

May 1. The most authentic accounts from Dublin, by the last packet, inform us, that there is at present a greater prospect of an union between Great-Britain and Ireland, than has appeared in any former period; the most distinguished patriots having given the strongest assurance to government, that they are ready to meet in any impartial plan for a lasting alliance between the two islands in the most cordial manner.

The following anecdote being very little known, and singular, as to the effects of national music, is furnished by a correspondent, who declared himself a lover of social inquiry, than political discussion: In 1720, Charles Melfoy, Esq; wrote a farce called The Half Pay Officer. It was brought out in Drury-lane, and to Mrs. Fryer, an Irish woman, who had quitted the stage since the reign of Charles the II. was assigned the part of an old grand-mother.

the farce was supposed to be a very old woman, and Pegg exerted her utmost abilities; but the farce being ended, she was brought again upon the stage to dance a jig at the age of eighty-five: she came tottering in, and seemed much fatigued; but all of a sudden, the music striking up the Irish trot, she danced and footed it almost as nimbly as any wench of twenty-five. Mrs. Fryer afterwards kept a public house in Tottenham court, and lived in full health till she died, at the great age of 117 years, in November 1747.

May 2. Extraordinary preparations have been made in Normandy and Brittany for fishing upon the banks of Newfoundland, for which purpose a larger number of vessels have been fitted out than usual. This is occasioned by the extraordinary bounty given by the French government last year.

An officer of the French guards, being a few days ago at the king's theatre at Versailles was seated behind a gentleman and lady; the former quitted his place for a moment, and left his hat on the bench near his wife—the officer took up the hat, and put it on the lady's knees, and immediately set down by her. She told him very politely (but in vain) that it was her husband's place. The gentleman soon came in, and was not a little surprised at the behaviour of the officer.

There is now to be seen at the Hotel de Louvis, Rue Richlieu, in Paris, a small vessel of twenty tons burthen, built entirely of paille-board—the ingenious ship-wright is the marquis du Creil, chancellor to his highness the duke of Orleans. This light vessel is shortly to be launched on the Seine and is to be navigated down the river to Havra-de-Grace: and the marquis is not without hopes that he will be able to make a short trip to the British channel. It is not expected that a vessel so constructed can be of any use to the public; but should it be able to keep the sea, it may, by its extreme lightness serve as an advice boat in cases where great expedition is necessary.

Two Spanish frigates are arrived at Cadiz from Lisbon, with 2,000,000 of dollars, out of the San Pedro Alcantara, which already exceeds 390,000 of dollars.

The Portuguese seem resolved to try their strength against the Barbary states, though stronger powers than they have failed. The only way of bringing these barbarians to reason seems to be to station a small squadron at the mouth of each of their harbours, and to have a number of light frigates perpetually to scour the seas in quest of such stragglers as might escape the vigilance of the stationary squadrons. Had this measure been followed by the Spaniards, they might, perhaps, with little expence, have humbled those pirates, instead of throwing away immense sums on an expedition which terminated so disgracefully. In fact, it is a reproach to Europe, that all its maritime states even the most powerful, are obliged to be tributaries to such a detestable set of banditti. While these potentates have been contending among themselves for the vain title of lords of the ocean, they have suffered the Barbary rovers really to become so; for there is no surer sign of domination than obliging a state to pay an acknowledgment for the privilege of navigating any sea in safety.

Extract of a letter from Paris, April 20.

“Louis XVI. who is desirous of knowing every thing that takes place in his dominions, is particularly curious to be informed of the situation of the poor in his kingdom. Some weeks back he commissioned a lieutenant-general, to whom he is much attached, and in whom he places the greatest confidence, to make a tour of France, and scrupulously to inspect every particular that regarded the poor. On his return on the 16th, the officer made the following report to his royal master:—“Sire! I have endeavoured to acquit myself faithfully of your majesty's commands: I have travelled amongst the poor, and am glad that I found so much misery in their habitations, that I know when your majesty is made acquainted with the extent of it, your royal goodness will find out some method to alleviate the distresses of such a multitude of your majesty's subjects as are continually perishing for want throughout the realm of France. The poverty that I have witnessed in your majesty's dominions harrowed up

my very soul. In many villages which I passed through, I was sensibly affected in some houses not to find a bed, in others I could not see a pot or kettle; here there was no blanket, there the parents and children were nearly naked!—The had been forced to part with the most necessary articles in house-keeping, to pay their imposts to their sovereign.” The king was so affected at the recital, that he assured his informant, that before a considerable time should elapse, he would take such measures as would enable the poorest subject in France to have a piece of good meat for his family at least three times in the week.

“Meat is sold here at twelve, fourteen, and eighteen sous per pound, according to the quality. There were no oxen to be purchased at the markets of Sceaux and Poissy on the 19th and 20th. The Dutch and Germans have deserted the French markets; they pretend that they lost considerably by frequenting them. What causes such a scarcity of oxen in France is, that the farmers neglected to bring them up, and apply their care to the breeding horses. But his majesty is about publishing an edict by which the farmers are to be enjoined to use only oxen in their ploughs, &c. this will remedy an evil which calls for instantaneous redress.”

May 5. We are sending one dictator to the east, and another dictator to the west, each invested with extraordinary and extensive powers. It seems all the remaining dominions on the continent of America are comprisable within the limits of one government, where we formerly sent near a score of governors! And in order to make room for one great and mighty governor, we must remove three governors of common size!—One of those discarded governors, but just warm in his office, and acquainted with and become agreeable to the people, thriving and prospering under his benign administration, must be recalled from the pleasing prospect of rearing a province to wealth, dignity and prosperity, under his nourishing, fostering hand!—They must now be governed by proxy, by deputy or deputy's deputy—Such is the wonderful economy of modern ministers!

The last dispatches from Paris are of the most favourable kind:—A commercial system is likely to take place, of equal benefit to the two nations, and the more desirable, as it may tend to suppress the jealousies from whence have arisen those long, bloody, and expensive wars, which have added largely to the present heavy debt under which we groan; and which can only be put in a state of being liquidated, with equal ease, safety and honour to the state by a continuance of peace.

The curiosity of the public to see Mr. Hastings, appeared so strong on Monday, by the crowds that were at the house of commons, that the gallery and all the avenues, were full before twelve o'clock. The house also, by the time business usually begins, was crowded to such a degree, that at the void space at the bar and behind the speaker's chair was full. And when Mr. Hastings made his appearance, the eyes of all that large body of people were immediately centered on him. Mr. Burke had never seen him before. He was not in the least intimidated or confuted, but entered on his defence with the greatest composure and recollection.

Pondicherry is in a much stronger state of defence than it was when last taken; but those who talk of its being impregnable are totally ignorant of the subject. If the French should conciliate the friendship of the Asiatic princes, they may weaken our strength in a degree; but while their possession is confined to one settlement, Great-Britain has nothing to apprehend in that quarter.

May 16. We can assure our readers from undoubted authority, that Mr. Eden has completed the commercial negotiation with the court of France for which purpose he was sent out. This business is to be laid before parliament immediately. Mr. Eden himself is expected from the continent in a few days.

We are glad to find, that matters are in the happiest train for a renewal of our connexion with Russia. The empress has a predilection for the English, which cannot easily be done away by the intrigues of the French cabinet, while the British administration continue to treat with her on liberal terms.

A letter from a gentleman at Madrid, to a merchant in the city, has the following article:—The dey of Algiers has already broke the trace with us; his cruises stop almost every vessel they meet with, and though they do not take them they generally plunder them of the principal part of their cargo,