(XLIIId YEAR.) THE (No. 2121.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1787.

LONDON, *June 8.*

THE public may be assured of the following very important fact.—A messenger who was dispatched last week with advices to the Hague, was stopped and pillaged by the burgomasters of Holland. He contrived to secret the confidential communications to Sir James Harris; but two letters to the duke of York, from lord Sidney, fell into their hands. Whether they contained any confidential communication or not, we know not, but the measure shews us to what lengths they are now proceeding, and that they look on England as having taken a decisive step in the quarrel in favour of the stadtholder. The messenger now at the Hague, is Mr. Flint.

Some letters were yesterday morning received at the Exchange from Vienna, which mention one of the bridges over the Danube, near that city, having suddenly given way lately, by which several lives were lost.

June 9. Sir James Harris, whose precipitate retreat from the Hague, and sudden return to the same quarter, occasion much speculation among our politicians, is hourly expected back from Holland; his return to the Hague was for the purpose of executing a *secret commission*, which after having effected, he will immediately measure back his way to England.

By the rapid movements of our ambassador to and from the Hague, it is evident that something of the highest importance is at present on the tapis. A public minister becoming the carrier of his own dispatches, is a circumstance that seldom occurs indeed; but when it does, it is perhaps always the forerunner of some great event.

June 11. The stadtholder has at last been obliged to publish a declaration to the states general of the United Provinces, that after every remonstrance and private effort to quiet the public disturbances having proved vain, he finds it necessary to summon those states and subjects who are well and peaceably disposed to support the constitution of Holland, to unite with him in what means may be necessary to re-establish general order, and himself and every loyal subject in their office, and full exercise of their authority. This appears a prelude to some disagreeable scenes among the Dutch.

That crisis which we have so long deprecated, is at last arrived; and in spite of our best intended resolutions, our plan of peace and commerce, our extinction of the national debt, with the long list of reforms, &c. in the contemplation of the minister, we are on the *eve* of being precipitated, against our inclination, if not into a war, at least into an arduous and difficult negotiation; for it were ridiculous to suppose, the commotions in Holland matter of indifference to this country.

On the one side, as matters now stand, we place Great Britain, Prussians and the stadtholderians; on the other, the emperor, France, and the patriots.—They must have the silver tongues of angels to reconcile such jarring interests. It may be done, but it is by no means the work of a day.

Orders are expected hourly from the admiralty, to equip ten sail of the line at Portsmouth, where a messenger arrived two days ago for the men in the yards to work double tides. This equipment has no reference, we are told, to the present state of affairs, but is meant to be renewed every summer for the better disciplining of the navy.

Should the present disturbances in Holland rise to any height, France no doubt will have an eye to the Cape as well as to the Spice Islands—and will take care of those valuable possessions for their good friends the burgomasters.

If the commotions among the Dutch should terminate in a civil war, the stadtholder would be supported by the king of Prussia, and the patriots, as they call themselves, by the grand monarque. It seems by no means necessary for England to make a part—but in every view of policy, we should certainly adhere to the stadtholder's party—and thus add to the phenomena of the present age, that of a free state supporting the monarchical part, while an arbitrary power is struggling for the democratic branch of the Dutch constitution. The declaration made by his majesty in the speech from the throne, indicates the part which the government means to take in the struggle in Holland. In addition to this, we have the best authority for saying, that Thursday night a messenger was dispatched to the Hague with categorical instructions to Sir James Harris to quit the station, unless the mediation of the British court shall be agreed to, for reinstating the stadtholder. Another messenger was on Thursday ordered to hold himself in waiting at the marquis of Carmarthen's office, to go also to the Hague.

In case the Anti-Orange party prevail in the United Provinces, and the stadtholder be deposed, an entire revolution may be expected in their constitution, and whether for the better or for the worse, let the French faction, which are at the bottom of it, tell.

The mention of the affairs of Holland in his majesty's speech, had some effect on our funds, but they have been rising ever since—a proof that a Dutch war would not have the effect now it had formerly, when we were in alliance with them, and when this country might have been expected to take an active part.

A Dutch civil war would not affect our funds so much as seems to be imagined. The apprehensions of this country being involved, might tend to sink—but that affect would be counterbalanced by the great influx of Dutch property among us, on account of its insecurity at home.

There is a young gentleman, a Swiss by birth, lately arrived from the continent, and now in the village of Madeley, in Shropshire, who, though but 19 years of age, may be considered as a prodigy of information. He has travelled through a great part of Turkey, Portugal, Hungary and a smaller part of Italy, France and England. He converses in Latin, French and German, and is now learning English. He is a youth of great remark and vivacity, and extensively skilled in logic, mathematics, and the use of his pencil. His address is uncommonly elegant, and, though we do not hold him up as a prodigy equal to the person mentioned by Monsieur Tissot and others, his information is such as ought to excite a laudable emulation in the minds of our young nobility, who, in general, possess the most liberal advantages.

A gentleman of Hull, who is just returned from Colebrook-dale, in Shropshire, asserts, that he there saw a spring of tar which has lately been discovered, and now produces from 15 to 20 barrels every 24 hours, and that it is of an excellent quality.

From Constantinople we learn, by letters received from Alexandria, dated February 26, that the captain pacha has actually acquired those advantages in Egypt, which have hitherto been circulated, and that far from having been cut off, he was then making dispositions to establish the authority of the Ottomans in that country.

The grievances alluded to respecting a demur, having already arisen in the commercial intercourse between this country and France, on the subject of our not allowing French consuls in England the same privileges as those of our nation enjoy in France, and that in consequence the French government had not permitted our ships to unload, we are now assured is settled to the mutual satisfaction of both parties. That part of the intelligence which alludes to government not having complied with a secret article of the treaty, is erroneous; nor has the French government ever hinted at such breach of faith: On the contrary, both countries are on the most friendly footing, and perfectly satisfied with the mutual benefits that have arisen to each other from it.

BELFAST, *April 30.*

In the year 1695, the Irish exported near 100,000 barrels of herrings to different parts of Europe, and a great quantity of pickled salmon and dried fish; of new and old drapery to the value of 70,000l. and of frize to the amount of 14,000l. which might be estimated upon the whole at three times the valuation of what such goods are disposed of at present. The fisheries were then pursued with a degree of spirit unknown at this period, notwithstanding the parliamentary bounties that have been granted these three last sessions. Cheese, stockings, skins of several sorts, linen and woollen yarn, &c. were also articles of export, and the balance in favour of this kingdom was near 200,000l. per annum, except in two years, in which war prevented the exertions of the people with respect to the carrying on of trade and manufactures. The prohibition of the woollen fabrics from an export, was the principal cause of the defalcation experienced for above half a century in this country.

Nature never makes any people wealthy; labour and art only effect it. By a mistaken policy we have long been graziers for France and Holland, and dairymen for Portugal and Spain. Such a trade as that of the provision is injurious to the internal happiness and essential advantages of the country, and renders the price of provisions so dear as to occasion working people to demand much higher rates for their weekly exertions than otherwise they would require.

The cheapness of provisions in the East-Indies, is the principal reason why manufactured silks, calicoes, cottons, &c. can be imported from those oriental climates almost one third cheaper than they can be fabricated in these countries. Provisions are at a much more reasonable price in the Hither Peninsula of India, than they are in Great Britain or Ireland, and the rates of mechanic workmanship are not near so extravagant. Nothing therefore, but prohibitory duties can obviate an evil of such alarming magnitude, as the almost constant introduction of those foreign goods, to the manifest prejudice of trade and commercial matters in Ireland. It is calculated that near 200,000l. worth of such kind of goods are brought to this kingdom every year, which prevents imitations of such elegant fabrics from being brought to perfection here.

NORTHAMPTON, *August 8.*

Copy of a letter from a gentleman in high office in Boston, to his friend in this county, dated August 2d.

"DEAR SIR,

"The accounts from the counties of Hampshire and Berkshire, give me very great uneasiness. I almost pledged myself that the conciliatory measures taken by government, would be embraced by those persons who had been concerned in the late unhappy commotions, and that we should be soon in a situation to forget every fault, and to forgive every injury; but I am told that those who have come in on the act of indemnity neglect to take the oath of allegiance, or to give evidence of their disposition to return to the arms of their country as good citizens, and that some of them behave in a very unbecoming and indecent manner. I am sorry that the wound, which has not only weakened, but disgraced our county, should be thus kept open, and that vigorous and severe measures should be rendered necessary. I cannot but be fully of opinion that it is the duty of every magistrate to apprehend and imprison those who are so returned until they shall take the oath of allegiance and subscribe the declaration, as is provided by the resolve of indemnity. This is only my opinion as a private man, having no public authority to decide, but should it have an influence to restore peace, it will give great pleasure to your's, &c."

A post is established from Albany and Lansingborough, in the state of New-York, to Bennington in Vermont, which, we hear, opens a communication from Onion river, on the borders of Canada, to every state in the union.

LITCHFIELD, *(Connecticut) August 26.*

Wednesday last a strong N. W. wind, attended with rain and hail, threatened sudden destruction to the tender blades of corn, &c. in the neighbourhood of this town; but, happily, the ill effects of it were most by anticipation; the damage sustained, considering the magnitude of the hail-stones, being very trifling; many of which fell in the south farms weighing more than an ounce—Some windows were broken.

Same day four men were struck with lightning at the south-farms, but soon recovered: To avoid the storm, they had retreated to a small cabbin in the field, near which they imprudently stuck their scythes, and these probably attracting the lightning, occasioned the disaster; they being entirely broken to pieces. We hope people will in future be cautious of a like mistake.

NEW-YORK, *August 22.*

The following paragraph is copied from an advertisement inserted in the London Morning Herald of June 6.

"The holders of bills of exchange drawn by Mr. Robert Morris of Philadelphia, on Mr. John Rucker of London, which were due in May last, are desired to send the particulars of such bills to Messrs. Bourdieu, Chollet and Bourdieu, at their house in Lime-street, who jointly with the house of Messrs Charles Loubier, Teissier and Co. have directions to pay the same."

Two American Jews, who were lately travelling through Pisa in Italy, having been conducted by their friends to view the magnificent doors of the cathedral, which were made by John of Bologna, and celebrated for their brazen sculpture, having taken their handkerchiefs to wipe the dust off a part, the better to see the workmanship; the populace thinking it a profanation killed them on the spot. Government however to their honour, ordered the murderers to be executed.

August 23. Authentic accounts from Vermont, say, that more families have moved into that state from New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode-Island, and Connecticut for six months past, than have done