(XLIIId YEAR.) THE (No. 2150.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1788.

VIENNA, *December 7.*

COURIERS are perpetually passing between this capital and Paris. By the last of these, the marquis de Noailles received orders to repair to Berlin on a commission of very particular consequence to both the court of Berlin and court of Versailles. The particulars of the negotiation alluded to have not yet transpired; but our most intelligent politicians are of opinion that the marquis, before his return, will proceed to Versailles, in order to obtain fresh instructions relative to the proposed plan of accommodation between Russia and the Porte, and to inform the French ministry, *viva voce*, what his idea is of the present dispositions of the emperor; who certainly, notwithstanding all his warlike preparations, wishes for peace with the Turks, if it be true, as reported, that, on being told by the marquis de Noailles of the late convention between England and France, he said, "With all my heart could I form a similar convention with the Turks, where the empress, whom I should wish to see previously appeased, included in it;—as for my own part, I should have no objection to a reconciliation with the Porte."

LONDON, *December 22.*

Extract of a letter from Barcelona, November 9.

"Yesterday anchored here the Mustapha, an Algerine rover of 32 guns, in a very shattered condition, having her fore-mast shot away, and a great part of her rigging cut to pieces, in an engagement the day before with two of the Pope's frigates, which she beat off, after a bloody conflict of four hours, wherein great numbers were killed and wounded on both sides—The pirates at one time were expected to strike their flag, or to have sunk, as they were between two fires, and remained in that situation for upwards of forty minutes, having one ship on their starboard and the other on their larboard side; yet they bore the fire with inflexible resolution, making prodigious shouts, and firing incessantly from every part of their ship in a furious and desperate manner, as well from the cannon as their small arms, which latter did great mischief amongst the people. They also made several attempts to board, but were repulsed with great slaughter; the captain of the pirate, and all his officers, were killed in the heat of the action, except the boatswain, who then took the command, and shared the same fate, and so on—Notwithstanding the loss of such determined leaders, the remaining infidels fought with equal valour as before, and obliged their opponents to sheer off—The captain of a corvette, who had seen great part of the action, says, one of the ships sunk towards the evening, and that her people were taken up by the other, which seemed to be in a disabled state."

Dec. 28. At the time of signing the declaration and counter-declaration with France, this nation was considered as being perfectly restored to tranquillity, with the prospect of a continuance of peace;—but it is now said, that such hopes are likely to prove the phantoms of political delusion, since it is rumoured, there is at this moment on the point of completion, a quadruple confederacy formed, between the courts of Versailles, Vienna, Petersburg and Madrid, which portends nothing less than a general war, unless the consummate wisdom of his majesty's present ministers can happily avert so dreadful a calamity.

Mr. Eden's new carriage for the court of Madrid is very superb;—the body is formed of variegated perpendicular stripes of purple and gold;—a device of flowers is in the centre;—the border is rich in its effect; roses painted after nature on a gold ground.—The harness consists of red morocco and silver—and every part is strikingly handsome.

Extract of a letter from Constantinople, November 22.

"A spirit of universal discontent actuates at this moment all the movements of the Janissaries; who, not satisfied before with respect to the smallness of their pay, now complain loudly of the irregular manner in which they receive it. Mutiny and the voice of murmur prevail also among all the other Ottoman troops, particularly since the affair of Kinburn. From these untoward circumstances, such a ferment has been excited in this capital, that nothing less than a revolt might be expected, were the grand vizier to join the army before it has subsided. He evidently knows better; and accordingly his departure is put off *de die in diem*."

Our readers will recollect a paragraph in a former paper, giving an account of a shark taken in the river Thames, near Poplar, by some fishermen, in the body of which was found a watch; the maker's name and number of the watch being Henry Watson, London, No. 1369, hath been the means of our obtaining the following additional account of this remarkable circumstance:—Mr. Henry Watson, the watchmaker, lives in Shoreditch, who sold the watch two years ago, to a Mr. Ephraim Thompson, of Whitechapel, as a present for his son on going out on his first voyage, on board the ship Polly, captain Vane, master, bound to Coast and Bay; about three leagues off Falmouth, by a sudden heel of the vessel, during the time of a squall, Master Thompson fell over board, and was seen no more. The news of his being drowned soon after came to the knowledge of his friends, and no more was expected to be heard of him—but from the above circumstances, it is proved, somewhat similar to the fate of Jonas in the belly of a whale, young Thompson's coffin was a living shark, though he was not so fortunate as Jonas to escape. Mr. Ephraim Thompson has purchased the shark, which he calls his son's executor—and the watch, &c. which he considers as his last legacy.

BIRMINGHAM, *December 10.*

On Friday last, by virtue of a judge's warrant, lord George Gordon was apprehended in this town, for contempt of the court of kings bench, in not appearing upon the prosecution last hilary term, for publishing a libel, of which he was found guilty. Lord George was conveyed before Joseph Carles, Esq; who directed him to be conducted to town, attended by an officer from Bow-street, and the keeper of the prison there—It was in the month of August last that lord George came to this town, and he has ever since lodged at the house of a Jewess, in Dudley-street, to whom he was unknown when he first arrived. When the officers waited upon him he did not deny himself, but told them he was a Jew, and whatever might happen should continue one; and when he learnt that it was ordered he should be in London on Saturday evening, he expressed much concern thereat, as it would oblige him to travel on the Sabbath day of the religion he had embraced—Lord George, we understand, first became a Jew while he was in Holland, and ever since he has resided in this place has been a very strict and rigid observer of every rite, ceremony, and custom of the Jews, except that of attending the Synagogue, where he feared to appear lest he should be discovered. His beard he had suffered to grow to a considerable length, which together with his dress, contributed so much to disguise him, that he frequently went out in the day time, though most of his hours were spent in his lodging room, in reading, writing, and learning the Hebrew language.

BOSTON, *March 5.*

A gentleman in this town has received a letter from Charles Logie, Esq; his Britannic majesty's consul at Algiers, dated November 4, 1787, of which the following is the substance:—After giving an account of his being obliged to confine himself to his own house above a year, on account of the plague, he observes, that notwithstanding the unhappy situation the unhappy American captives are in, by being obliged to mix and work with the natives, of whom upwards of 300 have died of a day, yet only three out of twenty-two have been carried off by that distemper.—He mentions the death of captain Coffin, a brother of captain Shubael Coffin, after a lingering illness, on the 2d November, and that he had afforded him every assistance in his power, as well as to the captains of ships, and the American people in general there; and this, he says, not merely from the common motives of humanity, but from gratitude, he bearing in mind the many civilities he met with in Boston, from a number of its respectable inhabitants, upwards of 20 years ago. Mr. Logie likewise says, that the cause of humanity would be greatly promoted by a subscription for the relief of the unfortunate American sufferers now in servitude there.

March 8. The general assembly of the state of Rhode-Island, the 1st instant, passed an act, "for submitting the consideration of the proposed federal constitution to the freemen of that state"—who are to meet in their respective towns, in town conventions, on the fourth Monday of March, (the 24th instant) when, after discussing it, they are to give their assent, or disapprobation of it, by yeas and nays; which are to be sealed up by the town clerk, and forwarded to the general assembly, at their meeting on the last Monday in March:—Provision was some time since made for the distribution of the constitution.

We are happy in being able to assure the public, that the above paragraph is authentic—and that the legislatures of all the states have now referred the proposed constitution to the consideration of the people; and that the mode adopted in Rhode-Island is, as we are assured, most likely to insure the ratification of the constitution there. When we consider that this system has been readily adopted in six states—unanimously or by respectable majorities—and been rejected by none, we have abundant reason to hope, that the time is not far distant, when the citizens of America, represented by one general and permanent government, will rise to that dignity and importance among the nations of the world, as they are entitled to from their native genius—their extent of country—and from their being a free, united and virtuous people.

PHILADELPHIA, *March 20.*

Extract of a letter from Wilmington, North-Carolina, February 2.

"I am just arrived at this place, on my return to the northward, having spent more than a year past in travelling through those parts of the United States bounding on the Ohio and Mississippi. The situation and soil of those territories in general are extremely flattering, but the immense population that has already taken place in these parts, has really astonished me: the face of these countries is every day visibly improving; forests as old as the creation are hourly falling before the ax of the hardy emigrant from the old states; elegant farms in abundance are already settled along the banks of some of the deepest and most beautiful rivers that America can boast of; and, in short, every circumstance seems to point out that country as the future seat of a great and powerful empire of confederated republics; the people are universally well disposed towards the states on the Atlantic; and even those that have been born there, mention them as the parent country, with a degree of fondness that I could not well account for: they cannot hear, with patience, of the Spaniards claiming or demanding an exclusive right to the navigation of the Mississippi—and any man that should attempt to recommend a cession of that nature upon any consideration whatever, would, if amongst them, be made to repent dearly for his temerity. What is of very great consequence too, is, that these countries abound with lead mines as well as saltpetre; and I speak within bounds when I say, there is timber in sufficient quantities to build a thousand navies, without going a mile from the banks of the rivers. It must give pain to a reflective mind, when it considers that such oceans of blood have been repeatedly spilt in Europe, often for the sake of some miserable and insignificant spot of territory, while such a noble and extensive region as that of which I am speaking, has been so long neglected, as it hardly worth the attention of a civilized race of men. God grant that we may speedily establish a free and energetic government upon the broad basis of republican equality, which may take the western territories under its wing, and assist them in repelling any insults that may be offered by the jealous and avaricious devotees on the other side of the Mississippi; or those insolent intruders, who, contrary to the faith of treaties, still possess our posts to the northward.

Captain Bunker, in the brig Sally, on his passage from St. Martin's to Philadelphia, the 1st of March, in lat. 33. 40, long. 64. 20, fell in with the ship Cincinnatus, captain Charles Collins, from Morlaix, bound to Virginia, 42 days out, who on the 19th of February, in long. 62, fell in with the Friendship, Clodes Basse, master, from Marseilles, bound to Baltimore, out four months, in great distress, without provision of any kind; lost his rudder; both fore and main-mast disabled; the weather being so bad that captain Collins could give them no assistance until the 21st; then it was with great difficulty he took all the people out, 15 in number, who added to captain Collins's ship's company consuming his provision so fast, that he was at a short allowance. Captain Bunker took four of the Friendship's men on board, which was all the assistance that he was able to give, and kept company with him until the 6th, when the wind still continuing to the westward, and blowing very hard, captain Collins bore away for the West-Indies, ship in a leaky condition.

CHARLESTON, *January 31.*

Major Butler stated yesterday to the house of representatives, that he had just received a letter from Georgia from a member of the legislature at Augusta, mentioning that they had sent several dispatches to congress, earnestly requesting assistance against the Indians, but received for answer, that there not being a sufficient number of members to constitute a congress, and therefore no relief could be sent—that Georgia could not raise any men, which had given additional spirits to the Indians, who were preparing for war in greater force than before.