(XLIIId YEAR.) THE (No. 2156.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1788.

VIENNA, *February* 16.

A BLOW has been already ſtruck. No ſooner was the declaration of war made known in the army, on the 9th of February, than general Devins, commandant of the troops in Croatia, commenced his operations by the attack on the fortreſs of Dreſnick.

The execution of this enterpriſe was confided to colonel Pobarnik, of the regiment of Carlſtadt. He first ſummoned the Turks to ſurrender, with an aſſurance, that if they gave up without reſiſtance, they ſhould meet with the protection of his imperial majeſty. To this ſummons, their only anſwer was, the diſcharge of their artillery! The colonel made a ſimiliar reply from the mouth of his cannon, with ſuch effect, that the whole place was ſoon in a blaze, and the garriſon almoſt entirely deſtroyed.

In another quarter the Imperial troops have not experienced the ſame ſucceſs. Lieutenant-colonel Oſnovick paſſed the Unna to attack the Turkiſh fortreſs of Dubiza. In this project he failed, and met with the loſs of a few men.

LONDON, *March* 1.

An official notice was delivered on Sunday the [illegible]th inſtant, at 2 P. M. by prince Kaunitz to all the foreign miniſters at Vienna, that the emperor had found himſelf obliged to declare war againſt the Turks; and that he hoped, in a cauſe ſo good, that the vows and wiſhes of all Europe would accompany him in his endeavours againſt the enemies of chriſtianity. Couriers were diſpatched to Verſailles and Peterſburg; and, on the 27th of laſt month, orders were ſent to baron Herbert, at Conſtantinople, to declare war. It is therefore highly probable, that that Ingnuncio is lodged with the Ruſſian miniſter in the Seven Towers.

The French are ſo far from relinquiſhing the works at Cherburg, that in the courſe of the laſt ſix weeks 1600 hands have been added.

Extract of a letter from Vienna, February 14.

"War is now declared againſt the Porte in form, and the emperor, to ſhew his martial deſigns, has ſent orders into Hungary to oblige every tenth inhabitant to enliſt as recruits to augment the army.—The ſame, or ſome ſimiliar mandate is daily expected here. The accounts from the Belgic Provinces are ſo favourable as to give the Imperialiſts full leiſure to provide for war againſt the Turks."

March 4. Our letters from Dantzick adviſe, that a revolution is expected to take place in that city, and that great diſcontents prevail among the citizens, who, it is ſuppoſed, mean to avail themſelves of the preſent Ruſſia is at war, in order to ſubmit themſelves to the king of Pruſſia.

By letters from Vienna we learn, that the departure of the emperor for the army was poſitively fixed for the 27th of February.

The ſame letters mention, that his imperial majeſty was in treaty to take 12,000 Wurtemberg troops into his pay—and that the emperor and the grand duke of Ruſſia were to have an interview at Lemberg, where great preparations were making for their reception.

March 6. By a gentleman who arrived yeſterday from Germany, we learn, that an account had arrived at Vienna, of the Imperial troops having invaded the important city of Belgrade, which it was expected would make a very powerful reſiſtance.

The empreſs of Ruſſia has now avowed her intention of driving the Turks out of Europe, and of placing the ſovereignty of that part of the Ottoman dominions to the grand duke's ſecond ſon, who is to hold it as a tributary prince to Ruſſia.

A correſpondent from Flanders writes, "In my paſſage through the Auſtrian Low-Countries, from Oſtend to this place (Oſtend) I met with ſcarce any thing elſe but recruiting parties beating up for ſoldiers to form new regiments for the emperor's ſervice in Germany, whither they are ſent in parties of 100, as they are picked up."

The agents of the empreſs of Ruſſia are engaging all the ſhips of a certain tunnage they can get, in order to convey their troops. The preſent war with the Porte will be carried on with efforts of the firſt magnitude.

March 7. The arrival of the Ruſſian fleet in the Euxine, (which will be as early as circumſtances will admit, it being the intention of the Czarina to have a powerful diviſion as ſoon as poſſible on the coaſt of the Turkiſh dominions) depends upon the weather. If the froſty ſeaſon ſhould continue very long, they cannot be here before June: on the other hand, if it ſhould ſoon become mild, the ſquadron may be off the Humber the beginning of May.

NEWBURY-PORT, (*Maſſachuſetts*) *April* 2.

Information, for the benefit of ſuch veſſels as may be deſtined for Newbury-Port, or otherwiſe fall into Ipſwich-Bay.

Two light-houſes have been lately erected on the north end of Plumb-Iſland, at the entrance of Merrimack river, which are kept conſtantly lighted from ſunſet to ſunriſe.

When any veſſel ſhall fall into this Bay, or ſhall be forced in by diſtreſs of weather, and ſhall make theſe lights, ſhe may run ſafely in, over Newbury bar, obſerving the proper time of tide, and taking care to keep the two lights in one until ſhe get within twice her length of the ſhore, then directing her courſe by the beech, where is bold water, ſhe may proceed until abreaſt of the weſtern light-houſe, where is good and ſafe anchorage in three fathoms of water.

A veſſel paſſing near aboard the rocks off Cape Anne, called the Salvages, and ſteering N. W. about five leagues, will come up with the bar in about ten fathoms of water—there is good anchorage in twelve fathoms of water about half a league ſhort of the bar.

The light-houſes now bear due eaſt and weſt of each other, and are ſo conſtructed as to be moveable; and care will be taken in caſe the bar ſhifts, to place them in ſuch a ſituation as that the foregoing directions will always be a good guide to ſtrangers.

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 29.

From the Kentucky Gazette of April 4.

It is with the moſt ſenſible concern we announce to the public the capture of three boats, on the Ohio, near the Big Miami, by the ſavages. Familiarized as we have been for ſeveral weeks paſt to murder and robbery, at almoſt every point of our frontiers, the ſympathy of all ranks has been excited in an extraordinary degree by this deeply affecting catraſtrophe: Among the paſſengers in theſe boats, it is with great regret we mention Samuel Purviance, Eſq; of Baltimore-town, Mr. Ridout, of Maryland, Mont. Ragaut, and two other French gentlemen, one a mineraliſt, the other a botaniſt, deſtined to explore the natural products of this country, a Mr. Pierce, of Maryland, and a Mr. Ferguſon, a trader; beſides theſe gentlemen, there was a Mr. Gray Garland Simmons, five other men, and a negro woman. The three French gentlemen and Mr. Pierce, who alone occupied one boat, were attacked on the 26th ultimo; from circumſtances we are authoriſed to conclude that the other boats were taken on the 21ſt, as they paſſed Limeſtone on the 19th. The ſavages had in their poſſeſſion a flat, in which eight or ten of them gave chace to the French gentlemen, who finding they could not eſcape, determined to preſent a white handkerchief, with other demonſtrations of friendſhip, and ſurrender without reſiſtance; for this purpoſe, Mr. Ragaut took poſt at the ſtern of the boat, and when the ſavages had approached very near, he offered his hand, and in return received the barbarians tomahawk; at the ſame inſtant the botaniſt was ſhot dead, and the mineraliſt badly wounded; the boat at this time had drifted near the ſhore, Mr. Pierce, and the ſurviving French gentleman jumped overboard, and the current being rapid, the ſavages paſt them, whilſt they were butchering and plundering Mr. Ragaut and the other victim. They with difficulty gained the ſhore, and under cover of the night, made a circuit, and fell in with the river below the ſavages, where they were, the next day, taken up in a boat, and conveyed to the Rapids the day after. Theſe are all the circumſtances we have been able to collect on this melancholy occaſion. There remains no doubt that the two boats firſt mentioned have been captured, as one of them has been taken up at the Rapids, and the other was ſeen in poſſeſſion of the ſavages, but the fate of the captives is uncertain.—Two boats, a few hours in front of Mr. Ragaut, under the direction of captain Balliard Smith and a Mr. Hinds, were attacked at the ſame place from the ſhore, but they returned the fire and eſcaped without further injury than two horſes wounded; and it is ſaid two Indians were killed in the attack.

Extract of a letter from colonel Iſaac Sherman, a ſurveyor appointed by the ſtate of Connecticut to aſſiſt in ſurveying the weſtern lands, addreſſed to his excellency governor Huntington, dated December 31, 1787.

"SIR,

"I was honoured with your letter of the 23d of March laſt, which I received in New-York, a day or two before I left that city for the weſtern waters. Immediately on my arrival in Pittſburgh, I wrote to you on the ſeveral ſubjects required, and have ſince been informed that my letter did not come to hand.

"The face of the country from Pittſburgh for near 300 miles down the Ohio, is generally mountainous 20 or 30 miles from the river. That part of the country reſerved by Connecticut ſtate begins north of the termination of thoſe high ridges of mountains, and is agreeably varied with plains, interſected by rivers and rivulets, and adorned with gentle eminences, covered with various kinds of trees; the cultivation of the hills is by no means difficult; they would produce graſs and the culmiferous plants; the rich uplands and intervales are exceeding proper for the cultivation of Indian corn, hemp and tobacco.

"From the beſt information I could obtain, and I was very ſolicitous in my inquiries, there is not a better tract of land of the ſame extent in the weſtern territories of the United States; excepting that on the waters of Wabaſh, Illinois and Miſſiſſippi rivers—for a grazing country, it will not be inferior to any; it is well watered, includes plenty of iron ore, ſtone coal, and a number of valuable ſalt ſprings.—There are ſeveral good harbours on Lake Erie; that at the mouth of the Cayahoga is an excellent one, and ſloops of 60 tuns burthen loaded may aſcend this river 30 miles.

"Were I to indulge my opinion, a ſettlement at the mouth, or near the head of the navigation of the Cayahoga river, would raiſe the price of the lands, give ſecurity to the intermediate parts of the country, promote its population, and increaſe the number of purchaſers.

"If the ſtate would give proper encouragement therefore, there is every probability that a ſufficient number of perſons would be induced thereby to emigrate and eſtabliſh a ſettlement at either of thoſe places. The ſources of the Cayahoga and Muſkingum rivers are adjacent, and by them is an eaſy communication with the waters of Lake Erie and the Ohio river."

AUGUSTA, *March* 22.

Extract of a letter from Wood's Fort, on Williamſon's Swamp, Waſhington county, dated March 14, 1788.

"On the 12th inſtant a party of the ſavages were diſcovered at the plantation of Mr. Sikes, about a mile on the ſouth ſide of Williamſon's Swamp, by the barking of the dogs, about two o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. Sikes went over the fence to ſee what they were barking at, when he was fired at by a party of Indians, and received three balls in his arm, ſhoulder and hip; he then returned over the fence to his houſe, and as he was going in received another ſhot, which broke his leg; the party alſo fired at Mrs. Sikes as ſhe ſtood at the door. Mr. Sikes, notwithſtanding his wounds, now prepared to defend his wife and four children, but the ſavages did not attempt the houſe. A young man, from a neighbouring family, hearing the report of the guns, came to the houſe, and finding Mr. Sikes in that ſituation, went to the fort for aſſiſtance; he returned again, immediately with one Allen Spurlock, who placed Mr. Sikes on a bed in his ſledge, with one of his daughters, about 9 years old, his wife's ſiſter, about 16 years old, walking, and Mrs. Sikes on horſeback, with one child before and one behind her, and proceeded towards the fort, (the young man having gone into the ſwamp to bring off another family;) but before they reached it they were fired on by the Indians, who had come in their rear; upon which they all run and left Mr. Sikes, and in attempting to gain the fort, the young woman and Allen Spurlock were ſhot and ſcalped. The little girl, carrying a bottle of rum in her hand, begged the ſavages to accept of it, and to ſpare her life; but they d——d her and her rum, and ſaid they wanted her ſcalp; upon which they knocked her down and ſcalped her. They then purſued Mrs. Sikes, who, with her children, muſt have fallen into their hands, had not major Wood come to her aſſiſtance. The little girl came to the fort about half an hour afterwards, and ſeems likely to recover. The next day the ſame or another party of Indians paſſed within ſight of this fort."

SAVANNA, *March* 20.

Extract from BRIGADE ORDERS, dated 18*th March*, 1788

"The general requests colonel Maxwell to preſent his warmeſt thanks to Green, Harvey, King, Waggoner and Corker, the five brave men of his regiment, who ſo gallantly engaged a ſuperior number of Indians, over the Alatamaha, on the 6th inſtant, and to aſſure them, he will make a point of acquainting his honour the governor, and the honourable the executive, of their conduct. He hopes their example will be followed by every party who are fortunate enough to fall in with our ſavage enemy.

JOHN LUCAS, Aid-de-Camp."