(XLIVth YEAR.) THE (No. 2198.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1789.

BERLIN, *November* 15.

THE arrivals and returns of couriers to and from Warſaw are more frequent than ever; and in the courſe of this week two ſucceſſive ones have arrived from Vienna. Ever ſince our cabinet has been in a ſtate of almoſt unremitted conſultation; and certain it is that, in conjunction with the court of London, the moſt important negotiations are going forward.

This morning a company of artillery ſet off from hence in full march for Pruſſia, which in a few days will be followed by ſeveral other companies. In the mean time large ſums of money have been forwarded for the uſe of the grand army; yet, after all, we have a pleaſing hope that every thing will be concluded amicably among the contending powers before the expiration of winter.

VERSAILLES, *November* 12.

Mr. Meſſier, already celebrated by his diſcoveries in aſtronomy, diſcovered a new comet on the 26th of November, in the morning, on the paw of Urſa Major, near the ſtar Pſi, having a tail of between two and three degrees long; but it is not yet viſible to the ſight without glaſſes. At three in the morning it had 167 degrees of direct aſcenſion, and 48 degrees of declination. It is ſituated on the ſpace between the two ſtars preceding the ſquare of Urſa Major, or on the line which on the other ſide points towards the Polar ſtar.

LONDON, *November* 6.

The following humourous circumſtance may be depended upon as a fact—A country fellow on Saturday morning, coming through Goſwell-ſtreet turnpike on his way from Iſlington to Fleet-market with an aſs, and a pair of hampers, refuſed to pay the toll, alleging that as his beaſt was unloaded, he thought they had no right to it, &c. His paſſage was of courſe prevented by the turnpike people, who told him that he himſelf might paſs through though ever ſo much loaded; but for the paſſage of the aſs, loaded or unloaded, he muſt pay. If that is the caſe, replied the countryman, I will bid you defiance; and being a ſtout fellow, immediately ſnatched up the aſs and hampers in his arms, and carried him through the turnpike, to the no ſmall diverſion of a number of ſpectators, who had ſtopped in conſequence of the diſpute.

Nov. 30. In the courſe of this year, upwards of fifteen thouſand pipes of red port wine have been imported into the port of London.

STATE PAPER.

Declaration of the Ruſſian ambaſſador to the king and to the republic of Poland.

THE ambaſſador extraordinary of her majeſty the empreſs of all the Ruſſias, has hitherto obſerved the moſt profound ſilence, and has not made the leaſt repreſentation againſt any of the reſolutions of the illuſtrious ſtates aſſembled, although they have already infringed the conſtitution agreed on between the three courts in 1776, without, however, offering any direct attack on the act of guarantee of 1775. The orders of the empreſs having always contained evident proofs of her amicable intentions towards the Poliſh nation, the underſigned wiſhed never to ſee himſelf reduced to the diſagreeable neceſſity of proteſting againſt any attempt to the former government ſolemnly confirmed by the treaty of the act of guarantee in 1775. Yet nevertheleſs, an attempt of this nature being contained in many of the projects which have a deſign to eſtabliſh a permanent diet, and to ſubvert alſo all the form of government; the underſigned is under the neceſſity of declaring in the name of her imperial majeſty, that, although it will not be without regret that ſhe withdraws from the king and the illuſtrious republic, the friendſhip which ſhe has avowed, ſhe will be forced to conſider as an infraction of the treaty, the leaſt change in the conſtitution of 1775.

STACKELBERG.

Warſaw, this 5th Nov. 1788.

It was propoſed in the diet, after reading the above, to draw out a declaration to ſend to the Ruſſian ambaſſador, demanding that all the Ruſſian troops ſhould immediately, without delay, evacuate Poland, and that none ſhould afterwards be permitted to enter them; but the propoſition was not agreed to on the 8th of November.

The meeting of the 5th was opened by the marſhal of the diet for the crown, returning his majeſty thanks for the fatigues he had borne in the laſt ſeſſions; and afterwards he propoſed ſettling what powers the commiſſion of war were to have.

The prince Czartoriſki demanded of the marſhal, what anſwer the Ruſſian ambaſſador had made to the requiſition of the diet for the troops evacuating Poland; alſo on the ſubject of their being refuſed winter quarters on its territory. The marſhal anſwered—"that he had not yet received any anſwer."

A moſt lamentable accident happened at Boreham, in Eſſex a few days ago: as a poor labouring man was retiring from his work, in paſſing through a field he was attacked by a bull, which before he could make his eſcape, pierced his horns through his body, and he expired immediately.

Dec. 2. In the preſent variety of opinions with regard to the ſituation of our ſovereign and the conſequent ſettlement of the government of this kingdom, it may be perhaps not unpleaſing to our readers to hear the ſentiments of the great Selden, as expreſſed in his "Diſcourſe on the laws and government of England;" in which it will be found that when in caſes ſo melancholy as the preſent, we are not left totally to the breath of faction, without a port to ſhelter, or a chart or compaſs to ſteer us.

"The default of age is not the only incapacity of kings; they have infirmities as other men, yea, more dangerous than any other man; which though it be an unpleaſant tune it be to harp upon, yet it is a theme that nations ſometimes are enforced to ruminate upon, when God will give them kings in his wrath, and give thoſe alſo over to their own luſts in his anger. In ſuch caſes, therefore, this nation ſometimes have fled to the refuge of a protector; and ſeldom it is that they can determine for how long. When Henry the ſixth was above 30 years old, Richard, duke of York, was made protector, and defender of the realm, and of the church. It was done, if the record ſaith true, by the king himſelf, *authoritate parliamenti*. It was further provided by the parliament, that though this was to continue *quamdiu regi placuerit*, yet the duke ſhould hold that place till the king's ſon Edward ſhould come to years of diſcretion, and ſhall declare that he will take that place upon himſelf.

"The ground hereof is ſaid to be, that the king was *gravi infirmitate detentus*; which could not be intended of any bodily diſtemper: for neither doth any ſuch thing appear by any author or record.—Nor if ſuch had been, yet had it been an irrational thing in the parliament to determine the ſame upon the prince's diſcretion, and acceptance of the charge upon himſelf. It ſeemeth, therefore, that it was *gravis infirmitas animi*, and that this way of the parliament tended to a tacit ſliding him out of the government of the kingdom, by a moderate expreſſion of a general incapacity in his perſon."

This evening's gazette will contain an order for court mourning for a princeſs of the houſe of Mecklenburg, "*by ORDER of the prince of Wales*, with the *approbation of the queen*." This order, although made upon a trivial circumſtance, plainly ſhews that it is already ſettled that the public affairs will be committed ſolely to a regent.

There looks to be miſchief ariſing in the north eaſt. The empreſs of Ruſſia does not ſeem inclined to retreat from her ſcheme of getting Poland to join her in the war with the Turks, and the king of Pruſſia is poſitively bent in oppoſing that plan, and keeping Poland neuter. Some of his forces are already marching towards the confines of Poland, and a large army is held in readineſs for motion. The winter muſt ſtop warlike operations; and it is to be hoped circumſtances may happen to turn the thoughts of theſe powerful rivals towards peace; but the event ſeems more likely to be for an extenſion of the war.

Extract of a letter from Venice, November 13.

"The republic has ordered a ſquadron of 11 men of war, and 6000 land forces to be ready to act on any emergency for the purpoſe of defending the ſtate of Raguſa, who had ſome time ſince concerted meaſures with the republic, to throw off the Turkiſh yoke; in conſequence of which, they had refuſed the uſual ſuccours to the Ottoman, who, in turn, have ſet on the Montenegrins Bayham to attack them. The Montenegrins are, however, only a ſort of pirate, and may probably be ſoon quelled."

Extract of a letter from Francfort, November 8.

"Letters from Vienna inform us, that the poſition taken by marſhal Laudohn, enables him to cover all Croatia. We know not as yet whether the operations of war will continue during the winter. The badneſs of that ſeaſon, joined to other conſiderations, may engage them to let their troops reſt, and perhaps even change their poſition.

"They reckon 147 villages laid waſte by the Turks during their ſtay in the Bannat: part of the inhabitants of that unfortunate country fled into Hungary, the reſt were maſſacred, or made ſlaves. The Turks did not leave a place without carrying off all the iron-work of the houſes, the moveables, bells even of churches, and every thing that was portable, and afterwards ſet fire to the buildings; in ſhort they ſpread deſolation wherever they came."

Dec. 3. On all hands the legality of the aſſumption of the executive power by the prince of Wales ſeems to be agreed on, particularly by the lawyers, who ſhould know beſt. The only queſtion then that remains is, the political expediency, which, in the preſent inſtance, is fortunately on the ſame ſide with right; for what could be more beneficial to the nation, than a change of government, which might poſſibly extricate us from our preſent ruinous connexions on the continent.

It is not a little ſtrange that the preſent continental war ſhould have begun between the Turks and Ruſſians, and that in the firſt campaign, they ſhould take as little notice concerning each other, as if they were at perfect peace.

The armies of the emperor and grand vizier are now at a comfortable diſtance, the one being at Semlin and the other at Belgrade, ſo that we may expect ſhortly to hear that his imperial majeſty has perfectly recovered his health and ſpirits.

The ſteady reſolutions of the Poles, in oppoſition to what they conſider an infringement on the part of the empreſs of Ruſſia, has nearly diſſipated the hopes that harmony would ſhortly be reſtored in the north; a circumſtance that may occaſion the dogs of war to be again let looſe, and next ſpring find them more numerous and deſtructive than the laſt.

Dec. 4. Notwithſtanding the very unfavourable appearances of war between the king of Pruſſia and the empreſs, there is the beſt reaſon to hope that nothing will ariſe from it, and that the empreſs may ſubmit by inſtantly withdrawing her troops out of Poland.

Extract of a letter from Peterſburgh, November 1.

"A body of troops are ordered to Riga, in conſequence, it is ſuppoſed, of what is going forward between the Danes and Pruſſians. If the latter take a part in the preſent troubles, Great-Britain would certainly join, which, in all probability, will lead to a general war in Europe."

Extract of a letter from Elſineur, November 15.

"We have accounts of ſeveral damages and loſſes of ſhips in the Baltic.

"To-day returned from their ſtation off the coaſt of Norway, the Daniſh man of war Oldenburg, of 64 guns, and a frigate, and are now proceeding to Copenhagen. The Daniſh auxiliary troops are now returned into Norway. The want of proviſions in that quarter where they were ſtationed was very great."

Extraordinary as the circumſtance of Mrs. Weatherly of Bow being delivered of two children, at the advanced age of *fifty-ſix*, may ſeem, there is a woman who is indulged with the privilege of ſerving the clerks in the Long room with fruit, whoſe age is equal to that of Mrs. Weatherly, who has recently *bleſſed* her husband, who is near *ſeventy*, with *three* children at one birth. He is her fourth conjugal partner, by all of whom ſhe has had iſſue, and by the preſent one is likely ſtill further to increaſe the number of his majeſty's liege ſubjects. She has been known in her preſent occupation between *forty* and *fifty* years, and has acquired the appellation of the *Cuſtom Houſe Pomona*.

Since the firſt of November, upwards of 200 ſhips for the Weſt-Indies, America and other places, cleared out from the cuſtom-houſe, and all fully laden.

Yeſterday was ſold at the India houſe, the remaining part of a ſuperb drawing-room ſuit of chairs, tables, &c. of ſolid ivory, richly carved and gilt, belonging to Mr. Haſtings, the ſame as preſented to her majeſty, for 40l. a piece, ſaid to have coſt upwards of three times that ſum in India.

The following fact may be depended on:—There is a hawk, now living, in the town of Northleach, in Glouceſterſhire, which was taken from its neſt when very young, between five and ſix years ago, and bred up tame: ſince which it has regularly taken its flight every year in the month of April, and as conſtantly returned about Michaelmas following, to the ſame houſe, where it goes about as tamely as before, with the family: and, what is very extraordinary, during its abſence no perſon in the neighbourhood has ever been able to give any account of it.

A curious caſe came before the court of requeſts in Fulwoods Rend, Holborn, a few days ago:—A woman, an inhabitant of Black Boy Alley, ſummoned another woman in the neighbourhood for two ſhillings and eight-pence; when upon the hearing before the commiſſioners, upon her being aſked to ſubſtantiate her claim—this appeared to be due to her for the letting out of her child, an infant of about fifteen months old, which the latter undertook to wean in the courſe of a month, and to pay her the aforeſaid ſum in weekly payments, in conſideration of the advantage ſhe expected to gain by begging with the infant about the ſtreets, according to a mutual agreement between them. The child was returned, but not fulfilling the pecuniary part of the engagement, the matter was brought before this court, which of courſe awarded the payment of the money to the plantiff.

Dec. 6. The prince of Wales is certainly to be declared ſole regent; but the miniſtry mean to propoſe ſome reſtrictions, which the prince will not admit, of courſe warm debates will ariſe in parliament, and Mr. Pitt will reſign, and a total change of the miniſtry will follow.

The calling in Dr. Addington, becauſe he keeps a private mad houſe in Reading, has a very extraordind-