

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, M A Y 28, 1795.

S U A B I A, February 17.

HE accounts from Basle respecting the negotiations for peace, continue to be contradictory and various. Some state that preliminaries for peace have been actually signed; others, on the contrary, affirm, that the whole negotiation is broken off, in consequence of Barthelmy, the French minister, having made the most dissatisfactory propositions to the German empire; and having declared that the affairs of Poland should be included in the treaty.

A pamphlet which has lately made its appearance in Switzerland and Germany, has attracted the general attention of the public. It is entitled, "Europe and peace," and is the copy of a speech made by the Abbe Sieyes, in the secret revolutionary committee, on the 12th Frimaire, 3d year of the French republic, containing the conditions required by France, in order to conclude a peace.

I. That whatever form of government the French should choose to give to themselves in future, and under what name they choose to establish the same, it shall be acknowledged before hand by the treating powers, as well as every alteration France should in future choose to make, with regard to the religion, laws, or in other points of its social order. The same is promised by the French nation to all other people and governments of the earth.

II. No nation shall interfere with any such change or alteration made by another nation, neither publicly nor privately, by force nor by intrigue, unless requested so to do by a decided majority of that nation; for no people or power have a right to prevent others from taking the means which they think necessary for their welfare, or to force them to take measures which they do not think either necessary or useful to their social order.

The powers at present at war with France must first acknowledge the republican form which the French people have chosen for the present, and as long as the latter shall think proper to adhere to it. These powers, therefore, must promise to the French nation never to wage war against them again for such pretences. The French nation, on her part, acknowledges every government of every other nation, whether monarchical, aristocratical, or democratical; promises not to interfere, either publicly or privately, by open force or by intrigue, unless they are invited to do so by the most reasonable majority.

III. And the possessions of the French republic conquered by England, as Corsica, and the East and West-India islands are to be restored to her. In the same manner the republic will yield up all the conquests made by her in Spain and Italy, and will remove her armies from the conquered countries between the Rhine and the Sea, to the ancient frontiers. From this are only excepted Avignon, and the departments limited by the Alps, formerly Savoy, who have voluntarily taken the part of the republic, and who remained faithful to her in the midst of the troubles and insurrections of the southern parts of the republic.

IV. All the countries situated between the Rhine and the Sea are to have the liberty to determine themselves upon what form of government they shall choose to adopt, and for this purpose, after the French troops shall have withdrawn from those countries, no other troops shall enter them until invited by them by a free choice.

V. The navigation of the Rhine, Moselle, Meuse, and Scheld, remains open and free from toll for all nations without distinction.

VI. Spain, Sardinia, Naples, England and Holland, are to undertake to give an asylum to the French emigrants, and to give them employment and nourishment. In case some of the emigrants should be wise enough to submit to the spirit of the times, they shall find an asylum in the island of Corsica, where the republic, instead of persecuting them, will protect them.

H A G U E, February 29.

The presidial chamber of Amsterdam has communicated by the provisional representatives of the people of Holland, the answer of the directors of the East-India Company to the following question:

"For what reason have the company's ships been detained so long in England?"

The directors, in their answer, declare, that having no power to give directions to the convoy under the command of captain Orthing, it is impossible for them to assign any reason for their ships remaining so long in English ports, and they do not even know whether all or any of the said ships are still in English ports.

As the states general have hitherto come to no definitive resolution for laying an embargo on English ships in the ports of the republic, and as this measure demands all possible dispatch, the deputies of Holland to the assembly of the states general have been charged

to effect that directions be immediately sent to the admiralties for issuing the necessary orders to the officers commanding the ships of the state to prevent the sailing of English ships from our ports by force, if necessary, and to call for the assistance of the French commanders.

It was resolved, after a long debate, that seals should be put upon the papers of Mr. Fagel, formerly register of the states general, and on those of the two clerks.

BOIS-LE-DUC, March 2.

The army of the Sambre and Meuse has profited of the capture of Emmerick, and its position on the Lower Rhine to pass that river: it has joined its left wing to the right wing of the army of the North. This operation must be advantageous to the republicans, as by means of it, they present a formidable front, which extends from Coblenz to the extremities of Holland.

The army of the North is pursuing its march, and pushing the troops of the allies beyond the river Ems, while the army of the Sambre and Meuse, directs its course towards the Lippe, clearing the country of the remnant of the combined forces.

The Austrians are redoubling their efforts upon the Upper Rhine, their plan is to relieve Luxemburg, which is the most ardent wish of the emperor.

BRUSSELS, March 5.

The representatives of the people have prohibited the distillation of gin throughout all Belgium. The great number of distilleries was one of the principal causes of the non-execution of requisition for supplying the army with provisions. In fact, these distilleries, which in East-Flanders alone were 181, consumed daily as much grain as would have been sufficient for the subsistence of 200,000 citizens, as much fuel as would have served more than 9000 families, and as much oats as would have fed 2300 horses.

LISBON, March 27.

This day sailed from Lisbon, prior to which the minister of state died, and in four or five days after, orders were issued from the court, ordering all their ships of war to be laid up, except a small squadron at Gibraltar, which they deemed sufficient to keep in the Algerines, including the ships which they had supplied the British with, which had arrived in Lisbon some time before I left it, and that two of the British officers who were captains in their service, were dismissed. And it was said that the rest would also be dismissed. There was a mutiny on board of a 74 gun ship while I was in Lisbon, which was ordered to Brazil in consequence of a dispute between the captain and the crew.

EDINBURGH, March 27.

By a gentleman recently arrived at Leith from Gibraltar, accounts are received that the emperor of Morocco had broke off the conferences for peace between the States of Barbary and America, and had actually declared war against the United States. Hitherto the court of Portugal has not only prevented those piratical desperadoes from passing and cruising near the mouth of the Straits, but has in various instances befriended the Americans, as well by allowing them convoys, as by endeavours to conclude a treaty of peace.

LONDON, March 28.

Earl Camden left London yesterday for Holyhead, to take upon him the arduous office of lord lieutenant of Ireland. He goes to meet the scrutiny of a nation, impetuous and incensed—without power to appease—and without understanding to qualify. He bears with him the secret instructions of Mr. Pitt; whether these are conceived in such a spirit of liberality as to conciliate the Irish nation, the event alone can determine.

It is now near a fortnight since any advices have been received from Germany; nor can we account for so long a delay, for though it is certain that one packet is either lost or taken, yet it seems extraordinary that no other vessel should have arrived from the Elbe.

HAIR POWDER TAX.

The people were led to imagine that the minister originally proposed the tax on powdered heads, to prevent the profusion of flour in this time of scarcity, but it is now proved beyond a doubt, that the fear of famine prompted no part of the plan, otherwise orders would have been issued for the military to discontinue the use of that article for their hair, when such a vast quantity is destroyed by them; as the following calculations will show.

The military forces of Great-Britain, including foot, horse, militia, fencibles, &c. in England, Scotland, Ireland, and elsewhere, amount to 250,000 men, each of whom is supposed to waste upon his head, and

pound of flour per week, 250,000lb. a week, make no less than 6500 tons weight a year—a quantity of flour sufficient to make 2 million, 59 thousand, 353 quarter loaves, and to supply 50,000 people with bread for 12 months.

This calculation proves what a good effect the total abolition of the use of hair powder might have on the price of bread, but when you add to the above, another calculation of flour, which will be used by persons privileged under the new tax, whose numbers cannot be fewer than 500,000, it will then be found that there are 750,000 lbs. flour used per week, for the hair, which would make in the year, 195,000 tons, or 9 millions, 418 thousand, and 59 quarter loaves. A quantity of bread sufficient for the use of 150 thousand men, women, and children.

From the above statement, we are authorized to say, that it would be more for the honour of our legislature, and the benefit of the nation, to prohibit the use of flour, or powder for the hair, altogether, than to lay a partial tax upon those who use it, for the purpose of prolonging a war which has been too long continued, and the effects of which the people of this country so severely feel.

Powdering the hair in the modern style, from which the minister expects so large an addition to the revenue, took its rise in the year 1614, when some ballad singers at the fair of St. Germaine, covered their heads with a white powder, to attract notice, and render themselves ridiculous.

NEW-YORK, May 18.

Yesterday afternoon arrived here in 40 days from Greenock, the ship Amsterdam Packet, captain Martin. The London papers by her are to the 28th March, with which the editor has been very obligingly favoured. Such materials as require publicity, shall be more fully detailed in future gazettes.

Though there is nothing in the papers that requires extraordinary exertion, yet the editor will barely give a sketch of that which appears worthy of notice. In the COURIER of March 26, it is said,

That accounts have been received in town that the transports, and other vessels which were on their voyage to bring away the British infantry from the continent, have been dispersed in a gale of wind; some of them have put into Hull, and other ports in the north of England; but many have not yet been heard of.

That Mr. Fox's speech on Tuesday, astonished even those who have been in the constant habit of attending for years to the speeches of that great man. A speech more replete with incontrovertible argument—more various and profound in its reasoning—more comprehensive in its range—and more clear and luminous in its arrangement, never came from the mouth of man.

That Mr. Pitt's speech, on the day of Mr. Fox's motion, was the worst he ever made; it was insolent and impudent; haughty, without being dignified; and dogmatical, without any attempt at argument or proof.

That there are Paris papers in town of the 10th, 11th and 12th instant. They make no mention of a decree of accusation having passed against Barrere and his accomplices.

In the SUN of same date, it is said, That earl Fitzwilliam does not seem in a hurry to return to England.

That there were 13,000 soldiers marched into Brest about 3 weeks before the above date, and are said to be destined to the West-Indies or the Cape of Good Hope.

That a vast number of flat bottomed boats are at Brest, as well as other seaports, intended, it is said, for an expedition in the summer.

That ten sail of the line were detached from the French fleet while at sea, on a secret expedition, whose destination is kept a profound secret.

That a convoy was required for the packets between Yarmouth and Cruikhaven. The answer of the admiralty was, that no ships could be spared from more important services.

In the CHRONICLE of the 28th March, it is said,

That the Dutch commissioners left London yesterday evening, on their return to Holland. We understand that none of the objects of their mission are accomplished; and that all discussion, on the nature of these objects, was precluded by a direct refusal on the part of our government to recognise the authority from which the commissioners derived their powers.

That there is a squadron of six sail of the line, and another of eight frigates; now on a cruise from Brest.

Captain Lindsay, arrived here yesterday in 14 days from Montserrat, informs us, that the French were in entire possession of the island of St. Lucia, except one fort, in which the British had a strong garrison; he says, that the day before he sailed, a vessel arrived at Montserrat from Martinique, the captain of which reported, that a severe action had taken place at St. Lucia, between the republicans and British troops, in