

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, M A Y 5, 1796.

GENOA, February 12.

Understand that the republican general Scherer has received orders to recommence his operations as soon as possible; and that, in consequence of these orders, his army, composed of 50,000 men, will be put in motion, in order to penetrate into Italy. We learn, however, at the same time, that this army is much weakened by desertion.

Letters from Turin state, that all Sardinian officers, on leave of absence, have received orders to join their corps. At Marseilles, as well as all over Provence, sailors are pressed for the manning of the Toulon fleet.

Our government has rejected the demand of the French government to put the French troops in possession of the fortresses of Savona and Gavi; nor do we learn that the request of the same government, concerning a loan of thirty millions in specie, is likely to meet with more success.

According to the treaty lately concluded between England and Algiers, the latter are permitted to convey their prizes into the ports of Corsica. The viceroy of this kingdom pays 179,000*l.* to the dey, for releasing the Corsican slaves retained in Algiers. The dey had received a beautiful xebec of 18 guns, as a present from the English.

H. A. G. U. E., February 27.

In Friesland a revolution has again taken place. The representatives of the people of Friesland, who, on the 26th of January, were driven from their posts, and either fled or were arrested, but were restored by the interference of general Dumonceau, have been a second time forced from their posts, and compelled to leave the province. The military appears not to have intermeddled in these disputes of the citizens.

The hall, in which the national convention is to hold its sittings, is fitted up nearly in the same manner as that at Paris; except that adjoining to the box for the foreign ministers, there is a box for the ladies of the representatives.

March 1. The day of the meeting of the national convention, so earnestly wished for, has at length arrived; and at the moment this letter is sent off it will enter on all the functions of the representative body of the sovereignty of our Batavian republic. The deputies assembled about eleven in the morning; the hall having been filled with spectators before seven.

Our whole garrison was drawn out, and the national guards received and escorted the deputies to the hall. Towards noon the commission of the states general by which the convention was constituted was opened. A deputation from the new convention accompanied the commission back, after which the states general dissolved themselves. We do not yet know with certainty who will be chosen president of the convention, but probably citizen Paulus, who was first president of the assembly of Holland.

On the opening of the national convention all the ships displayed the national flag, and every sailor received a pint of wine, a quarter of a pound of tobacco, and two pipes.

The labourers in the public works likewise had a holiday with their usual pay.

A new tree of liberty will likewise be planted.

It is now asserted that the fleet of four ships of the line and thirteen frigates, which sailed from the Texel last week, is bound for the East-Indies, and it is expected that they will be joined off Brest or Rochfort by a French Squadron.

FRANCFORT, February 22.

Our advices from Coblenz state, that in Jourdan's army 170 officers, who could neither read nor write, have been dismissed. The French army of the Moselle, which has been considerably augmented, is to be divided into 175 brigades, general Jourdan is hourly expected back from Paris.

Letters from Munich inform us, that the states of Bavaria have granted three millions and a half of florins, to the elector, for the raising of an army of 30,000 men, 18,000 of whom are to join the Austrian army, in case the war should be continued. The prince de Breitenheim will be appointed to command this, but will with the rest of the officers, be under the immediate orders of the Imperial commander in chief.

In Alsace the forced loan is now collecting by means of military force.

A rumour was circulated here, as if the French had proposed to prolong the armistice for three months longer; it has, however, not yet been confirmed.

AMSTERDAM, March 1.

According to private letters from Friesland, the fugitive representatives, twenty-seven in number, have taken with them the provincial chest, and retired into a foreign territory. Among them is the celebrated

Joha. This revolution, however, was without bloodshed. The number of the fugitives is reckoned at 400. They consist of the before mentioned representatives, the citizens who espoused their cause, and the adherents to the old system of government.

AIX-LA-CHAPELLE, February 25.

The French directory at Paris has declared that the Prussian territories have no right to expect to be exempted from the forced loan; and has ordered the national agent Cafelli, to require the central administration between the Meuse and the Rhine to levy it.

W E S E L, March 3.

General Jourdan has returned to the French army, and been received with every demonstration of joy. The campaign will therefore probably commence as soon as the weather will permit.

I T A L Y, February 20.

The French have now 20,000 men before the Genoese fortress Savona, and our curiosity is excited to know whether they will employ force to obtain possession of a place which is of the utmost importance to them, if they mean to penetrate into Lombardy.

They have requested that only a part of their troops might have possession of the fortress, in conjunction with the Genoese garrison; but this has been refused.

The report that the French had made a landing on the island of Sardinia, is unfounded.

The English fleet has again put to sea from Leghorn, after having been joined by the Neapolitan ship of the line, the Tancredi.

HAMBURGH, March 4.

[Extract of a private letter.]

On the 27th ult. every thing remained quiet on the Rhine; but it was feared that the renewal of hostilities was near at hand.

Letters from Vienna state, that his Imperial majesty may perhaps proceed in person to Mentz, for the purpose of being near the operations of war; but this is not yet certain. A report, which is current here, and may perhaps find its way in the newspapers, that field-marshal Wurmser is to be intrusted with the command in chief of both the Imperial armies on the Rhine, is without foundation.

RATISBON, February 25.

The Imperial decree of ratification, concerning the 100 Roman months granted by the diet for the prosecution of the war, was yesterday dictated, as the phrase is, or published to the diet. It bears date the 15th inst. and after having, as usual, repeated the contents and very words of the advice of the empire, and ratified the same, concludes in the following manner:—"His Imperial majesty, at the same time expects, on his own behalf, as well as on that of the country, that, in pursuance of the ratified advice of the empire, of the 22d December, 1794, the electors, princes, and states, will exert their utmost efforts, by joining and enforcing all the remaining means for attack and defence, to attain that just and honourable peace, the conclusion of which is merely rendered difficult by the enemy's overbearing projects of conquest."

TURIN, February 9.

The French are busily occupied in making a road from Ormea to Garressio, and thence to the sea; for the passage of their artillery. A reinforcement of 5000 cavalry is arrived at the army to-day, and their battalions increase daily, which circumstances, added to their immense preparations, seem to menace Italy with an invasion. However, desertion is very frequent, and a few days ago a detachment of 500 men, posted at St. Jacques, deserted at once to the Austrians.

PARIS, March 4.

The directory has just announced, officially, that Stofflet, and five of his accomplices, were tried at Angers, on the 6th Ventose, and all shot the next day, except his young sergent, whom the military commission ordered to be imprisoned till the termination of the war. It appears that Stofflet was only 44 years of age, and was born at Luneville, in the department of La Meurthe. The four officers were, Charles Lichtenhen, aged 24, born at Prades, formerly in the Imperial service; Joseph Philippe Desvannes, born at Ancenis, formerly clerk to the district; Joseph Moreau, aged 20, born at Chantellu, by trade a dyer; Pierre Pinot, aged 21, born at Chollet; and Michael Grolleau, aged 14, also born at Chollet.

In the council of five hundred, during the sittings of the 3d of March, a petition from dissenting farmers, requesting that at least one of each of their sons might be exempted from the requisition, in order to assist them in the cultivation of the land, was unanimously rejected.

LONDON, March 7.

The Frenchman who arrived the other day from Paris, at the office of the secretary of state for the foreign department, brought dispatches to lord Grenville, sealed with the national seal of France. Their contents, of course, have not transpired.

March 8. We yesterday stated the receipt of a Paris journal of the 3d inst. last night we received a series from the 27th ultimo to the 4th inst. inclusive. The most interesting article is the execution of Stofflet, the Chouan chief, with some of his associates in arms.

March 9. Several articles which the Hamburg mail, arrived this morning, brings, revive the hopes of effective negotiation; but upon the information and authority of such articles, which so often prove fallacious and contradictory, we forbear to speculate. We have the highest and most unquestionable authority in this country, for saying, that things are in train for negotiation, if the French are sincere in their wishes for peace, and we hope to state the effect of such negotiations upon better authority than the vague rumours as they generally prove to be of foreign journals.

March 13. The Paris papers to the 6th, were received in town on Thursday, which brought nothing important: They only mention, that a restraint is going to be put on the liberty of the press, and that no journal (public print) will be in future permitted to circulate by the post, except such as are acknowledged by government, and approved by the censors established by them, for the purpose of examining such publications. This restraint enrages many of the Journalists against the executive directory, some of whom do not scruple to say that such an arbitrary inquisition, was even never attempted by Robespierre. Others say, they do not imagine that such a measure will pass the two councils.

Stofflet, according to letters from Angers, died with firmness. Before he was shot, he tied a handkerchief about his eyes, and knelt down. The soldiers hit him at the first fire. One of his aids-de-camp received ten fires before he died. They were sold by a farmer, who conducted the republican troops to the place between Vallons and Chollet.

By Lloyd's list, it appears, that the number of ships taken by the enemy, from England and the other powers at war with them, from January 1793, to December 1795, is 2009, of which 119 were retaken by our cruisers. The number taken by England and the other powers, from France, is 319, so that there remains a balance in favour of the enemy of 1491 vessels. Ships of war and privateers are not included in this statement.

The king of Spain, to defray the expences of his journey, has taken two millions of crowns from the treasury, which is appropriated to the expenditure of 40 days. The duke of Alcydia, who has four secretaries of state with him, rides in the same carriage with their majesties.

March 15. The Italian states are exasperated at the treaty which we have made with the Algerines, by which they permit those free booters to sell their prizes in the island of Corsica. It is demanded, if the English will permit them to sell their slaves also there. The ports of Corsica will by this means become the resort of these cruel pirates, and all the coasts of Italy will be infested with their cruisers. Is this a thing, they exclaim, for England to countenance? Is this the use of their new acquisition of Corsica?

We have as good a Vendue in Ireland as the French can boast of in any part of the republic; we have another in Jamaica; and those, like the originals, have cost infinitely more trouble to quell them than our governments were wise enough to foresee.

NEW-YORK, April 26.

By the arrivals from London and Bristol on Saturday, we have London papers to March 16; which furnish a variety of information. The most agreeable account is, some prospect of peace. The only ground of this expectation is, that some ministerial papers announce from high authority that negotiations are on the carpet between Great-Britain and France.

The news of the employment of dogs from the Havana to hunt down the Maroons in Jamaica, excited much resentment, and severe animadversions in the house of commons. This conduct was compared to that of the first Spanish settlers, whose barbarous treatment excited universal horror.

But, aside of custom, what is the real difference in point of humanity, between dogs to tear men to pieces, and ordering men to shoot them?

Late London papers assert, and a gentleman who has passed through England the winter past, confirms the account, that there is no real scarcity of wheat in that country. The scarcity is artificial—created by the farmers, who keep back their grain while the price is rising, not by combinations for speculation. There is doubtless much truth in this account.

The forced loan in France has had good success. The directory have stated that ten milliards, one