

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1797.

VIENNA, February 20.

Imperial majesty being informed that a general opinion prevailed all over Europe, which had even been supported in the British house of commons, by authentic documents, of general La Fayette, his family, and fellow-prisoners, suffering in the dungeons of Olmutz the most barbarous treatment; that they have been for years kept rigorously confined in separate cells, infected with the pestilential air of a morass and a common sewer, of two barracks and two hospitals, without being allowed the benefit of either air, exercise, or intercourse with each other; that the health of the prisoners was so far impaired as to require medical assistance almost daily;—has just ordered that commissioners should be appointed to inquire particularly into their former treatment, and the present situation of the prisoners; and that an authenticated report should be sent without delay to the court.

The curiosity of the public, so much interested in favour of those unhappy victims, is strongly excited to know what was the motive, and what is likely to be the result of this order. Is it in consequence of his Imperial majesty being now, for the first time, acquainted with the treatment of the prisoners? or of the official declaration made by the British minister, that he had no share in it? Has the magnanimous conduct of the emperor of Russia towards Kosciusko, by which he has so unequivocally disclaimed being an accomplice of the persecutors of La Fayette, disposed our court to follow his example? Is it at last that our ministers, anticipating the notification intended to be made by the Directory, that the prisoners at Olmutz were considered by the French government as prisoners of war, avail themselves of the opportunity to justify the detention of the three French officers, and have resolved in consequence to treat them as prisoners of war, and to allow them to breathe out of their dungeons, to take exercise, and to see one another? Whatever may be the motive for this inquiry, which cannot possibly terminate but in the relief, or even the liberation of the captives; we need not observe that the report of the commissioners cannot but be reprobated by all Europe as undeserving of credit, unless the investigation be fairly and openly managed by men of honourable and independent character, not influenced by personal interest, fear, or corruption; and unless the report is sanctioned by the signature of the parties concerned, or at least that it be open for their observations, in opposition to those of the commissioners.

RATISBON, February 19.

The impending new campaign has been officially announced to the diet of the empire. The declaration made on the 14th instant, on the part of the emperor, to the three colleges of the empire, contains amongst others, the following passage:

"The states must have acquired the most perfect conviction from many events, especially from the hostile sentiments expressed by the enemy against the integrity of the empire, that it became unavoidably necessary to make great efforts, to lose no time, in straining every nerve to support his Imperial majesty, in the generous patriotic resolution of employing all his forces for the welfare of the Germanic empire, and the preservation of its constitution, with all possible vigour, and with farther sacrifices of his resources."

The emperor then demands of all those states who wish for the farther protection of the Imperial arms, the speedy furnishing of their Quintuple contingent of troops, who are to join the army of the emperor without delay; to furnish also contingents in money, and the arrears of the Roman months, in order that the effective force may be reasonably known before the opening of the impending campaign, which is to be carried on with the greatest energy.

The emperor concludes his declaration by stating: "His majesty the emperor and king, considering the immense efforts of the enemy, and the vicissitudes of the war which have hitherto taken place, will find it impossible to avert the hostile dangers which threaten the Germanic constitution, and the prosperity of certain districts of Germany, unless his efforts will grant him the most active support."

We have to state, upon the authority of letters from Petersburg, (and we believe that government were put in possession of the fact by the last messenger that arrived from Sweden), the very important intelligence, that another naval armed neutrality is forming in the

north, of which Russia is to be the head, and to furnish the largest quota of ships.

From the same source we are also informed, that under the mediation of Prussia, a commercial treaty is negotiating between Russia and the French republic, and that the partial admission of French commodities into the Russian ports, is to be looked upon as a preliminary measure, which is to be followed by greater privileges.

March 10—11.

The report which stated the sailing of the Squadron collected at Dunirk, we are enabled to say, is unfounded—a cutter belonging to Yarmouth station, on Tuesday last, looked into that port—there were several vessels there, some of them answering to the description of the large flat bottomed barges constructed to run into shoal water, and easily debark troops—but those did not wear an appearance equal to immediate service.—At Ostend all was inactive on Wednesday.

A neutral vessel arrived off Bridington, was on Wednesday boarded by the Segull brig, a few hours after she had been examined by a Dutch sloop—the commander of which stated, that the Dutch fleet were lying at the Texel, at single anchor, waiting the first favourable wind to put to sea—that they had been joined by several frigates from Flushing, and a ship of the line from Rotterdam.

Paris journals of the 4th and 5th, arrived yesterday—they bring an account that peace is concluded between the pope and the French.

The following are the official letters published by the Directory on the subject of the peace concluded between the pope and the French republic.

Buonaparte, commander in chief, to the French Executive Directory.
Head quarters at Tolentino, 10 Ventose, Feb 19.

I shall send you immediately the 19 standards which we have taken from the pope in the different actions we have had with his troops. You will find annexed the copy of a letter which the Holy Father has written to me, and of my answer.

Signed,

BUONAPARTE.

Pius Pape VI.

"Dear son, health and apostolic benediction.

"Desiring to terminate amicably our differences with the French republic by the retreat of the troops which you command, we send and depute to you, as our plenipotentiaries, two ecclesiastics, the cardinal Marty, who is perfectly known to you, and M. Callippi; and two seculars, the duke Don Lewis Braschi, our nephew, and the marquis Camillus, who are invested with our full powers, to concert with you, promise, and subscribe such conditions as we hope will be just and reasonable, obliging ourselves under our faith and word to approve and ratify them in special form, in order that they may be valid and inviolable in all future time. Assured of the sentiments of good will which you have manifested, we have abstained from removing any thing from Rome, by which you will be persuaded of the entire confidence which we repose in you. We conclude by assuring you our perfect esteem, and in giving you the paternal apostolic benediction.

Given at St Peter's, in Rome, the 12th Feb. 1797, the 22d year of our pontificate.

"PIUS, P. P. XVI."

Buonaparte, general in chief of the army of Italy, to his holiness the pope.

"Head quarters, Tolentino, 1st Ventose, 5th year.

"Most Holy Father,

"I ought to thank your holiness for the obliging things contained in the letter which you have taken the trouble to write to me.

"The peace between the French republic and your holiness is just signed; I felicitate myself in being able to contribute to your personal safety.

"I entreat your holiness to regard against the persons who are at Rome, who are sold to the courts, the enemies of France, or who suffer themselves to be guided exclusively by the passions of hatred which the loss of territory constantly engenders.

"All Europe knows the precise inclination, and the conciliatory virtue of your holiness. The French republic, I hope, will be one of the truest friends of Rome."

"I send my aide-de-camp, chief of brigade, to express to your holiness the perfect esteem and veneration, which I have for your person; and to entreat you to consider in the desire which I have to give you on every occasion proofs of the respect and veneration with which I have the honour to be your most obedient servant."

Signed, BUONAPARTE.

The Hamburg mail, due on Wednesday, arrived yesterday.—The archduke Charles evacuated his military camp with success, having defeated the advanced guard of the French army, commanded by general Massena; after which his royal highness proceeded to Vienna to consult on a plan of operations.

The recent success which attended the operations of the archduke Charles, in the Tyrol, has, as was expected, arrested Buonaparte in his progress to Rome. Previous to this, the republican general dismissed the envoy of the pope unheard, declaring that in the capital alone would he treat with his holiness. On receiving, however, advice of the offensive movements of the Austrians, and possibly calculating on some opposition from the command of general Colli, he listened to the renewed proposals of the pope, and concluded a happy peace.

A court of common council, was held yesterday at Guildhall, when the thanks of the court were unanimously voted to Sir John Jervis, K. B. and to all the admirals, captains, officers, seamen, mariners, and soldiers in the fleet on the 14th of February—a sword, value 2000 guineas, was also voted to Sir John Jervis; and the freedom of the city, in gold boxes, value 100 guineas each, to all the admirals in the fleet, and to commodore Nelson.

DUBLIN, March 4.

The consternation which prevails from the late shock sustained by the public credit, is indelible. All confidence in paper is gone, and business is at a complete stand.

For a considerable time on Thursday last the commissioners of the revenue refused to accept of notes of the bank of Ireland from such merchants as render them in payment of the duties on their entries. The effects of their refusal may be easily conceived. It operated like an electric shock, and threw the whole metropolis into confusion.

Fortunately the prohibition was taken off in the course of the day—and the bank of Ireland notes were allowed currency at the custom-house.

As a circulating medium guinea notes have been adopted by the bank of Ireland, and a number of them have actually been issued.

NEW-YORK, April 19.

It is a fact (says a late English paper) confirmed by the testimony of many of the French prisoners, that so confident was the enemy in the success of the expedition against Ireland, that an hotel-keeper in Paris relinquished his establishment, as he said, to reme to Cork, and embarked his family and property with as much unconcern, as he would have removed from one house to another in the same street.

The elephant, who is considerably increased in size, is more tame, and quite improved in various accomplishments, has arrived here from Philadelphia, on his way to Boston. We are informed he is to be seen at No. 110, Front-street. He dances Yankee Doodle extremely well; he must therefore meet a favourable reception at his place of destination.

From a London Paper.

The result of the king of Sweden's late visit to Petersburg, is, we believe, very little understood. The following interesting particulars have reached us from good authority:

It is well known that the late empress employed every possible intrigue to break up the match between the king of Sweden and the princess of Mecklenburg, and went even so far as to threaten hostilities. She wished the king to marry her eldest grand-daughter, who is about 14 years of age; and having succeeded in breaking off the marriage with the princess of Mecklenburg, her Imperial majesty prevailed on the young king to pay a visit to Petersburg.

It must be acknowledged, that during his residence there, her majesty did every thing that magnificence and liberality could bestow in dazzling the mind of her royal guest. The king saw his intended bride, and there was every appearance that the contract of a public betrothing would be fulfilled. The day was even fixed for the ceremony; the grand duke, and most of the royal family, with the great officers of state, were assembled to witness the king's signature to the contract, when to his majesty's extreme displeasure, and soon after left Petersburg without being betrothed. The grand duke, now emperor, never spoke to the king afterwards; but the late empress continued to treat him with great cordiality and affection to the moment of his departure.

It is said that the cause of the match being broken off was owing to the empress wishing to insist that there should be a public church in Stockholm for the exercise of the Greek religion; the king, however, refused to permit it, observing that he could only allow his intended bride a private chapel, and one Greek priest for her devotion.

It must be confessed that the Russians had need of the great sovereigns they have possessed for nearly a century. One of their maxims was—that to learn any thing, was to usurp upon the rights of their sovereign, and understand every thing; that to know what he knew was treason, and to know any thing which he did not know, impiety.