


MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1797.

W E S E L, March 5.



THE French again form a camp of 10,000 men near Dunkirk, under the command of general St. Quintin. A great number of transports are in the road, and a division of frigates from Brest, is also expected there.

A great number of gun-boats, transports, &c. are also fitting out at Flushing and Middleburg. The whole force is said to be destined to make a descent in Scotland.

STUTGARD, March 3.

Different letters from Venice and Tyrol agree, in stating, that the French, instead of having gained more ground than they occupied on the 3d of last month, have fallen back. It is even said, they have been obliged to evacuate Trent towards the latter end of the month, either on account of the epidemical distempers which desolate that country, or on account of the want of provision.

It appears certain that they abandoned the Piava, nor did they possess Treviso and Feltra on the 20th instant. The motive of these retrograde movements, is said to be the failure of an attempt made by Massena, from the 6th to the 15th to ascend the Piava, directing his way towards Brixen, in order to turn the position of Botzen.

These attempts did not succeed, owing to the badness of the roads, and the resistance made by the Austrians in various combats in the environs of Feltra and Belluno: the principal of these engagements, of which there is no official report, took place on the 8th ult. when the French must have sustained a very considerable loss.

M A D R I D, February 20.

Our fleet, consisting of 26 ships of the line, commanded by Don Cordova, has captured eight English ships belonging to the East-India Company, six of which have already entered the bay of Cadiz.—It has fallen in with admiral Jervis's fleet, consisting of 19 ships of the line, and an action commenced between the two fleets: at ten in the morning of the 16th, and was not over at midnight.

The courier from Cadiz, who brought these advices, reached this capital in 48 hours. On his departure, the event of the action was not known at Cadiz.

A R A N J U E Z, February 23.

We are assured that the English fleet having announced its intention of retreating to Lisbon, the Spanish government has given orders to have it followed, and that it shall be burned even in that port.

B A Y O N N E, March 1.

Extract of a letter from Madrid to a citizen of Bayonne.

The last express which reached Cadiz on the 18th ult. at night, announces, among other things, that the Santissima Trinidad, the admiral's ship, of 130 guns, had gloriously sustained the attack of five of the enemy's ships; that two of the latter were sunk, and three others very roughly handled. On her side, the Santissima Trinidad lost 400 men, and was obliged to be towed into Cadiz.

It is added, that Don Navia's division instantly sailed from Cadiz, to join the grand fleet, consisting of about 25 ships of the line. It is said, that Jervis had only 19. We have nothing official on this head; but every thing announces that the Spanish fleet was in a good train, and that the English admiral was endeavoring to get into Lisbon.

V I E N N A, February 25.

Since the arrival here of the archduke Charles, several military councils have been held, at which the general Belsardie and Mack were present.

It was reported, that his royal highness would set out again this day for the Italian army, accompanied by general Bellegarde; but his departure is again deferred.

There is a report likewise of the archduke Albert, of Saxe-Teschen, and other generals, taking the command of that army, assisted by general Mack; at least it appears that the archduke Charles is not very willing to leave his brave army on the Rhine.

The representation which the archduke made to his imperial majesty, of the situation of the Italian army, was certainly not such as might have been wished. General Alvinzi has applied for leave to resign, on account of ill health; but this has not been granted him. A great number of the officers will be either dismissed, or brought to a court-martial.

The French appear to wait for fresh reinforcements before they begin their operations on the frontiers of the Tyrol and the Friuli. They have already 16,000 men in the vicinity of Treves and Castellano.

The weather has been extremely favourable for their operations, and the Laguna, or shallows of the sea, at Venice, is almost entirely dry.

The Austrian army in Italy has begun again to advance, and has removed its head quarters at Udina to Conegliano, on the Piava.

The nobility here have subscribed a sum of 50,000 florins, which they propose presenting to his royal highness the archduke Charles, to be distributed to the sick and wounded of the last campaign on the Rhine.

Field-marshal Wurmsler, and lieutenant-general count Canto d'Yries, late commandant of Italy, are expected here. The garrison of Mantua, after it has been exchanged, will go into quarters at Prague and Vienna, and will receive double garrison pay, on account of their brave defence of Mantua.

B O T Z E N, February 19.

The French, it is reported, are now carrying off their artillery from Trent and Roveredo, and appear as if they intended to evacuate those places.

The army under general Alvinzi, which is now above 40,000 strong, has broken up from Gortz, and has debiled by the road of Pontafel.

The monastery of Seeben is fortified, and artillery has been mounted on the batteries erected without the town.

Recruits for the militia are pouring in on all sides—it is said that 25,000 Tyrolese have offered their service since the arrival of the archduke Charles.

I N S P R U C K, February 22.

Field-marshal lieut. count Mercantin, the commander under the archduke Charles on the Rhine, will now take the command of the army in the Tyrol.

We have this day received advice, that an important action has taken place on the Piava, between our troops and those of enemy; after which the former advanced to Treviso.

The republicans are supposed to have suffered considerably, as a great number of their wounded are brought to Vicenza and Bassano.

L O N D O N, March 21.

The Hamburg mail, which became due yesterday, has not yet arrived: but a Dutch piper, received on Saturday, makes mention of a farther suspension of hostilities on the Rhine, in consequence of some negotiations carrying on among certain northern powers. This news, however, it is to be understood, is of French origin. Commotions still continued in the interior of the Dutch provinces, and the sailors, in particular, were uncommonly clamorous for peace. The ships of war, it is said, are very ill manned.

The more prominent reports of the day are—that negotiations for peace are again pending, and it is moreover said, that our ministry have privately dispatched a person to Paris on business of this description. The name of this agent is, even given—the count D'Arcebaire. We merely mention the above as a rumour, resting on very slender authority.

A vessel arrived from Lisbon, which port it left on the 5th inst. brings a positive statement that the Spanish fleet had not appeared at sea since the late action. A reinforcement of three 74's, is said to have been sent out from Cadiz on the first report (said to be erroneous) being received here of the battle, but this only kept to sea to protect and assist the disabled ships into port.

It was understood at Lisbon, that the Santissima Trinidad did not reach Cadiz till 30 days after the engagement, and was then, when last seen off this port, in so shattered a state, that it was thought she must be laid up as a hulk.

The British fleet at Lisbon was perfectly refitted for sea, as were the captured ships; great exertions were also using to get in early readiness a Portuguese squadron of considerable force.

A Spanish army, was reported to be assembling on the frontiers of Portugal, but few apprehensions were entertained of any immediate serious consequences. The war was understood to be universally unpopular in Spain, in several provinces of which kingdom, there had been insurrections, particularly in Catalonia, where the general wish was for a change of ministry.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, May 11.

The *Lavaca*, yesterday, at 5 minutes past 1 o'clock, its *Union Signal* was launched from the dock-yard of Mr. Joshua Humphreys, in a manner which does great honour to the conductors. The descent from her ways was gradual and calm; and her appearance in the water truly elegant. It may naturally be supposed that a scene is not to be inferior, and that the preparations of this day seemed to give zest to the latter proposal of an American navy. On

this occasion, the artillery and other uniform companies, together with the regular corps, were paraded. The adjacent parts of the river were crowded with vessels of different description, and the stages and house-tops surrounding the dock-yard, were covered with citizens of every age and sex. The entrance of the United States into her destined element was announced by a federal discharge from the artillery, and the united felicitations of near twenty thousand spectators.

This is perhaps the largest and completest frigate ever built—and, though intended to carry only 44 guns, is as large as a 64 gun ship.

After the launch the ship-carpenters and artists sat down in the ship-yard to a collation—and the remaining part of the day was spent in the utmost festivity.

We had flattered ourselves that the day would have passed without any calamitous accident—we have, however, the painful task of announcing the melancholy exit of a youth, whose amiable qualities promised a valuable acquisition to society.—A lad, about 16 years of age, apprentice to a silversmith, in stepping from the deck of the frigate to the wharf, fell into the river, and was unfortunately drowned.

Extra of a letter from Cape-Francois, dated April 10.

Our situation in St. Domingo has become truly brilliant. Every where we are victorious, and cultivation and commerce flourish once again, especially since the commissioners have determined to rent out the plantations.

You will see in the news-papers that accompany this, that the eastern mountains of the French part of St. Domingo, are totally freed from the Brigands. The English and emigrants have been every where either cut to pieces or completely routed. The count Ed. de Rouvray has been beaten. He had a musket ball through his hat. He fled leaving his correspondence, of which you will find extracts in the papers annexed. Banique has been evacuated. The English and emigrants before leaving it set fire to it, and assassinated the Spaniards who were there.

General Toussaint L'Ouverture with an army of 20,000 men, well disciplined and well provided, has already conquered the Mirebalais. He marches towards Port-au-Prince. General Moise, his nephew, is to penetrate with a division of his army into the quarter of l'Arcahaye, and then to attack St. Marc, which he will perhaps find evacuated.

But in the mean-time the communication between the north and south of the colony is completely restored, and already the armies of general Toussaint, Laplume, and Beauvais, have formed a junction to attack Port-au-Prince, I am in hopes they shall not want the treaty of peace to put us in complete possession of St. Domingo.

Annapolis, May 18.

Arret of the French Executive Directory, of the 12th Ventose, March 2.

The Executive Directory having consulted the law of the 9th March, 1793, considering that the flags of neutral powers being no longer respected by the enemies of the French republic, and all the rights of men being violated to their prejudice, it is no longer permitted to the French people to fulfil towards these powers, in general, that wish which they have so often manifested, and which they will constantly entertain for the full and entire freedom of commerce and navigation, directs, among other dispositions,

1. That ships of war and privateers may stop, and bring into the ports of the republic, neutral ships, which shall be charged, in whole or in part, with merchandise belonging to the enemy.

2. That merchandise belonging to the enemy shall be declared good and lawful prizes, and be confiscated to the profit of the captors.

3. That in all cases neutral ships shall be released the moment that the merchandise seized is discharged; that the freight of it shall be paid at the rate which shall have been stipulated by the consignees; and that a just indemnity shall be granted, on account of their detention, by the tribunals competent to decide upon the validity of prizes.

4. That these tribunals shall be directed to send, three days after the decision, a double inventory of the merchandise to the minister of marine, and another to the minister for foreign affairs.

5. That the present law, applicable in all cases, directs that all the laws which have been made since the declaration of the republic, shall have declared non-izable, although declared for the benefit of the republic, the merchandise laden on board neutral ships, which shall belong to the citizens of the republic, and to French citizens.

Having seen the law of the 27th Ventose, 1797, which directs the foregoing law to be fully executed, having also seen the 5th article of the law of the 13th Nivose,