(EIGHTY-EIGHTH YEAR.) THE (No. 2658.)

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1797.

MILAN, *September* 8.

THE people of Udina, finding that the French commissioners had imposed a military contribution upon them which they were not able to pay, sent deputies to make representation of their case to Buonaparte. The general advised them to sell the property of the church, and apply it to the discharge of the contribution. "But," observed the deputies, "who will venture to purchase such property; will the provisional administrators take upon themselves to preside at the sale, or to guarantee its validity?"—"Entertain no distrust," said Buonapart. "You shall certainly be made free." It may be inferred from this assurance, that the French government has determined not to cede any part of the Terra Firma of Venice to the house of Austria, and that therefore the recommencement of hostilities is inevitable, if the cabinet of Vienna persists in its claims.

A translation of the work of the citizen Reveilliere Lepeaux, on the liberty of worship, has just been published here. A translation of Thomas Paine's letter is printed along with it. Both of these writings are read with great avidity by all the friends of liberty and sound philosophy.

September 13.

The cavalier Borghese has had his audience of entry of the Directory of the Cisalpine republic, as envoy plenipotentiary from the king of Sardinia.

The number of nobles arrested at Genoa between the 4th and 7th inst. amounts to forty-three.

September 16.

Two proclamations by general Buonaparte, one addressed to his grand army, and the other to the division of general Kellerman, which, together with other troops from the south of France, have joined the Italian army to the number of 30,000 men, give new weight to the reports of war. The Sardinian troops are likewise all in motion; and the report is renewed, that the king of Sardinia will send 10,000 men to join the army of Buonaparte.

The brother of general Buonaparte, French envoy at Rome, was presented to the pope in a public audience on the 4th inst. by the cardinal secretary of state; and gave in the ratified articles of the treaty concluded at Tolentino, between France and the pope.

FERRARA, *August* 20.

The ex-Jesuits have been all provisionally deprived of their pensions. They are compelled to appear before the magistrates, and give in their names, their ages, and their employments.

UDINA, *September* 10.

Yesterday was held the tenth conference between the Austrian and French plenipotentiaries.

All the French corps have received orders to send back their sick, their women, and baggage, towards Ferrara; and the whole army is to be in readiness to march on the 25th. To-morrow the esplanade round the fortress of Palma will be begun. The neighbouring places will be requisited to furnish workmen, and all the waggons and carts are put in requisition. Preparations are likewise making for the establishment of a field hospital.

LONDON, *September* 30.

The following extraordinary circumstance happened on Thursday night the 14th inst. at Lawley-colliery, belonging to the Coalbrook-Dale Company. As one man and two boys were employed in a coal pit about 40 yards deep, 19 days a head of water, which being nearer some old works than they expected, the water suddenly broke in upon them, which in a few minutes filled all the work, and rose nine feet up the pit shaft; one of the boys being near the bottom of the pit at the time, laid hold on the rope, and alarmed the people at the top, who immediately drew him up; the other two, remaining behind, were of course supposed to be drowned.—During the space of 24 hours a number of horses were employed in drawing the water out of the pit, in order to rescue the supposed dead bodies to their friends.—In the mean time the agent of the work ordered a gibbet to be erected over an old pit about forty yards from that in which the accident happened, and going down this pit the workmen came to a heap of rubbish, which they proceeded, until they came to another pit, which they likewise descended, and after working some time they made way into the place where the unfortunate man and boy were at work when the water came first upon them. And to their great amazement found them both alive! They had crept from the water up into a chasm, sufficiently high to keep them from being drowned; and in the remaining time, nothing but death to relieve them from their miserable situation. They were extricated on Saturday morning following, about four o'clock; very weak from their want of food, but they are now in a fair way of recovery.

October 5.

In a former paper we made brief mention of a person at Versailles, who had lately, in a state of distraction murdered his wife, children, and himself. In the last French journals we have the following particulars of this horrid affair:

"Versailles has recently witnessed one of those tragical acts, of which the revolution has exhibited but too frequent instances.

"A respectable citizen, after coming to the possession of his fortune, committed it to the trust of a commercial company. The bankruptcy of this company involved the ruin of his fortune. From this moment he fell into a fit of affliction and despondency, out of which he did not recover till Saturday last, (the 23d ult). For the first time he appeared surrounded with his family, and partook of their diet. It was scarcely over when his two children fell dead. We may conceive what must have been the situation of the mother at this sight. "Resolved," said the husband, "to save these children from the misfortunes which awaited them at a future day, and have poisoned them." With a pistol shot he made his wife to fall down dead at his feet. Addressing himself then to a servant maid, only spectator of this tragic scene: "I foresaw the whole," said he to her: "These lines which I write with my own hand will discover the author, and his motives in what has been done." He dies. The crime of this man, the effusion of innocent blood, and every other circumstance, rise in proof against this infamous bankrupt, who, by robbing this unfortunate family of its property, condemned it to destruction. No doubt but the original assassin enjoys peaceably the bloody spoils. Since an infamous bankruptcy is become an object of jobbing the proprietor is compelled, by every motive, to anticipate, by a quick and voluntary exit, the agonies of a long lingering death. But on the other hand, nothing hinders the blood of the victims from falling by drops upon the head of the murderer."

Paris—General Pichegru was completely sick of travelling in a waggon before his embarkation at Rochefort. He thought it hard that as he had once led an army, he should now travel as part of the baggage.

The fate of the French generals is rather hard. After running for a short time a very brilliant career, they are either banished, imprisoned, or dismissed. It is the property of tyrants to become suspicious of their agents.

Accounts from Mauheim mention a dreadful accident during the military revolutions performed before the archduke Charles, near Schwetzingen, on the 20th ultimo, when, notwithstanding the precautions taken, 36 privates and an officer were taken to the hospital with little hopes of recovery.

The Imperial army, at present encamped in Carniola, Friouli, Carinthia, and Tyrol, consists of 109 battalions, 68 detached companies, and 96 of cavalry. The artillery of reserve forms a park of 137 pieces of cannon.

It is a fact not generally known, that the fatal ball which shattered the arm of the brave Sir H. Nelson, likewise wounded his son-in-law, lieutenant Nesbitt, in his left arm, who was standing by him; notwithstanding which, the heroically took out his handkerchief and tied up the wound of his noble relative; and after, by the means of his right hand, threw him over his shoulder, and carried him off shore. Sir H. Nelson being very diminutive in stature, rendered the brave act more easy.

We understand the lords of the admiralty have promoted lieutenant Nesbitt, who is the son of lady Nelson by a former husband, to the rank of master and commander.

October 6.

Thirteen of Mornington's transports for Bengal on board La Virginie frigate, in which also Sir John Anstruther takes his passage—La Virginie is expected to touch at Malta, in her way to Fort William.

Accounts from the Hague give the following particulars of the late insurrection in the fleet in the Texel: Several battalions being sent on shore for their ill behaviour, admiral Winter assembled their officers on board his ship, and asked them whether they chose to go to the Westindies, or to resign their situations? Upon their asking till any orders issued for that purpose, and expressing their willingness to obey it, the order was produced, and they were further enjoined to represent the same to the troops. Accordingly, a colonel went on board a transport, which had two companies; but he had scarcely time to inform them of the order, when they fixed their bayonets, and accused the colonel of being the author of the order. These two companies were then sent ashore, where they were disarmed by a body of chasseurs appointed to receive them. Six of the mutineers were seized by order of admiral Winter, and ordered to be hanged up without any further process; the sentence was immediately executed upon two of them. Much doubt was expressed respecting the loyalty of those ships that still remained on board the fleet.

The Virginie frigate is ready for sea in every respect.

In the note which the Ottoman Porte has presented to the French Directory, they state that the emperor, supported by his alliance with England and Russia, will afford the most formidable means for depriving them of their European provinces; that the Black Sea will be covered with Russian fleets, and the White Sea with the trading vessels of the emperor; that Albania and Bosnia, which are without fortified places, will be exposed to the first attempt against them; that the republic of Ragusa must unite with the emperor, and that Epirus, Macedonia, Thessaly, &c. as far as the Morea, will be exposed to the same danger; and, lastly, that the French commerce will be materially injured by the facility of exports from Hungary and Dalmatia, rather than from the Mediterranean.

HALIFAX, *November* 16.

On Monday morning arrived his majesty's packet boat the Princess Charlotte, commanded by capt. William Clements, in 33 days from Falmouth, with the October mail. She has brought papers to the 7th of October. The important extracts we have made from them shew, that all our pleasing prospects of peace are vanished, and that the bloody despots of France are not yet sufficiently gorged with human sacrifices. The miseries of war are not only to be renewed in Germany and Italy, but the French appear to have employed political missionaries, who have been exciting insurrection in Turkey and Poland, and in every other country where they could possibly obtain admittance.

It appears also that the scourge of war will not be confined to the European continent, but that it will also extend itself to America. The Paris papers mention the arrival of the American envoys, and of the improbability of their succeeding in the mission. Indeed, all the members in both councils, who had advocated the cause of America, are either transported or have fled to Switzerland. Parliament is to meet, for the dispatch of business, the 2d of November, and there is no doubt, but the most rigorous measures will be adopted for carrying on the war, as every man must be convinced that the present rulers of France have no disposition to make peace upon any terms whatever.

PORTSMOUTH, *November* 19.

Monday arrived here brig Maria Jean, capt. Blunt, 38 days from Hamburg; left there brig Hollbrook, captain M'Call of Boston, arrived in distress, having been dismasted off Heilgland, where several pilot boats came off to his assistance, and obliged him to pay them above £. 330 sterling for their services.

SALEM, *December* 5.

A mad horse, which had been bitten by a dog, was lately shot in Lynn. One day he pursued a woman, who fled into a barn, and up on a hay mow, where the horse followed, and she only escaped by throwing herself out of the window.

BOSTON, *December*

From Hamburg, September 25, 1797.

A vessel departing for your part of America affords me an opportunity to advise you of the state of this market. West-India produce is at present selling at the high prices mentioned in the enclosed price current, which there is every reason to believe will at least maintain, if they do not rise. The state of coffee and sugar here, is by no means considerable, which alone is a reason for the high prices to continue even should peace take place; but this event, since the new alteration in France, is very doubtful. Whatever may at last be agreed upon by the European powers, it seems that peace will continue between France and America. The former no longer molests your ships, when they are provided with the required papers; and our underwriters no longer object to insure them at the usual premium, from five to six per cent. all risks.

December

Extract of a letter from a merchant at Lisbon, to a correspondent in this town, dated September 1797.

Never was trade duller here than at this moment. The good effects which were expected from our peace with France, are entirely counteracted by the uncertainty what may be the future conduct of England towards this country; for if this power should be successful in the consequence, we shall according to her dictates, be under a heavy pay into the fire. We fortunately continue well supplied with provisions; flour continues to be admitted and probably will be so for some time, at the high rate, the wished for termination of the war seems yet a considerable distance. Captain A. will inform you more at large by the first opportunity. He intends to make a passage about the middle of October, but prefers waiting for the sailing of some frigate with dispatches for France.