

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1798.

B A S L E, January 14.

POLITICAL affairs occupy more than ever our magistrates, and the senate is occupied every day. To-day we waited with extraordinary impatience news from Upper Switzerland; they inform us that several towns and communes in the country of Vaud, have renewed their oath of fidelity, with some reservations analogous to present circumstances. Some regiments of the German territory, who had orders to march, received counter-orders. The news of to-day is, that 15,000 French troops have entered on the frontiers of Bern; their troops passed through Geneva in small divisions of 4 or 500 men—other troops have also arrived at Huningen, and other places in our neighbourhood.

R A S T A D T, January 15.

Since unlimited powers are arrived to the diet of the deputation of the empire, negotiations for peace will not fail to be soon opened.

Yesterday the deputation held their twelfth meeting, to-day the full powers will be presented.

Citizen Bacher, after stopping here a few days, took the rout for Ratisbon, where he will make his appearance at first as a private citizen, after which he will display himself charge d'affairs of the French republic.

Letters from Vienna of the 30th December, to several merchants here mention, that at the moment of the departure of the express, several Greek merchants were arrested who had printed in the language of their nation, revolutionary writings, to be spread over Turkey and the Archipelago islands. They are also accused of being the authors of the present revolution in Turkey. The Turkish ambassador on this occasion will make the more serious representations to the emperor. It is also said, that the Greeks established at Vienna, have an understanding with several rich Greek merchants established in Hungary, whose influence extends into Turkey.

The same letters also mention, that the Turkish rebels, after a terrible bloody battle, took Belgrade by assault, and that all the inhabitants of that miserable place were massacred. The 7th December, the commandant forbade the inhabitants to receive any strangers in their houses. Several Jews were taken up as spies.

Extract of a letter from Constantinople, dated 11th December.

"The French revolution has extended its effects from Lisbon to this place. The grand sultan has the mortification to see the old system overturned here as well as in several other countries. France will soon cover Europe with its numerous and valiant legions. Instead of being a friend at a distance, she has become a dangerous neighbour. The capture of the former Venetian islands on our coasts, by the French occupies all the attention of the divan, at the same time the spirit of liberty manifests itself in all the Morea, and Old Greece.

"The Turkish troops will not be able much longer to keep order in their provinces. The beginning of this month an ambassador was sent to Paris, with very pressing instructions to make representations to the French government, and to enter into negotiations. As there have been great insurrections in some of the islands of the Levant, the French general Serrurier, commanding at Venice, was obliged to dispatch great reinforcements to these islands, which has served to increase the Porte's anxiety. Since which the Porte seems determined to take strong measures to meet these exigencies. Conferences have been held with the Russian minister, and it is yet possible, that before the end of this century, Russia will be the ally of Turkey in a common cause, especially if Prussia shall be forced to declare itself, and that the French should extend yet farther the miseries of war. It is possible that in such a case England will also ally itself with the Porte against France."

P A R I S, January 27.

Extract of a letter from Rome, dated January 1.

"We are yet in a consternation, in consequence of the dreadful event which lately took place in this city, the details of which are doubtless already known in France; to these we subjoin the following:

"The Neapolitan minister, on this occasion, dispatched two extraordinary courtiers, immediately succeeding each other, to his court. The Spanish minister, who had determined to withdraw, at last acquiesced to the pressing and repeated invitations of our secretary of state, by sending a courier to the court of Madrid.

"There has been an extraordinary meeting to advise what should be done in this fatal conjuncture. It is agreed to send cardinal Braschi to Naples, accompanied by Lord Gellani, to implore the succour and protection of his power; those two deputies departed the 29th ultimo. But what can the court of Naples do for us, otherwise than give us their councils of wisdom

and moderation! Their intercession even, near a government so justly irritated against ours, would it be of any weight!

"We shall say nothing of their military succours, for one hostile movement would inevitably involve their ruin.

"The greater part of the cardinals and other distinguished characters of this capital, are preparing to abandon it. In vain does an edict just published, order, on pain of death, that all the citizens, and all strangers, of what nation soever, be respected, several of this last description, have already left the city, and many others are preparing to follow.

"In this frightful anxiety our government have recourse to all sorts of means, if possible to escape from the unhappiness which menaces it. It invokes the aid of the powers of both Heaven and earth. It has expedited a courier to Vienna imploring the mediation or succour of the emperor. It has also thought it its duty to invoke the intercession of the duke of Tuscany. It has caused the theatres to be suspended. It has just ordered eight days of prayer, to obtain the protection of the Most High. Of all our governing people the pope is yet the most to be pitied. He is in such a feeble state, that he has been kept ignorant of all that passed until this very moment.

"The greatest part of those Frenchmen, whose popular principles are known, have taken their flight, in spite of securities which were offered to inspire them, and are on their way to Ancona, where they will have stronger motives to conceive themselves secure.

"The palais of cardinal Neveu is guarded with a single eye by the centinels. It is not known to what place Louis Braschi has retired.

"The priests cannot but be in a consternation at an event the result of which will be the total abolition of their tyrannic power. In the mean-time their malice ceases to be gluttoned at the expense of those who are suspected by them. Among those who are arrested, some French were found, who were, however, released upon the intercession of chevalier Azara, and some Danes who owed their liberty to the intercession of the Swedish minister. About 60 persons have been incarcerated. These measures so badly calculated, the consternation of the government, the scarcity of provisions, all concur to render the crisis still more violent and to augment the force and audacity of the French party.

"There is at this moment a subscription opened for the erection of a monument for the general, so cowardly assassinated by our soldiers. A very great number of patriots have already subscribed.

"There has been a trifling insurrection in several places, particularly around the victualling houses; but they have been easily appeased.

"You will see the disposition of the mass of the people. They desire a change of government; but they are much opposed to the excesses which accompany revolutions; they are prepared to welcome every one who shall come and dictate to them the laws; provided they might see the end of the sacerdotal authority, which by its perfidies, and its misdemeanors, is become the object of universal execration.

B A L T I M O R E, April 9.

THE DISPATCHES.

As anxious to give, as our readers can be to obtain, every article of information relative to the dispatches of our ministers in France, we have not been negligent in fulfilling our duty. Having received from a kind correspondent at Philadelphia, Claypoole's paper of Saturday morning, every thing that had at that time transpired relative to this important object, is given in the Extra. Gazette of this morning.

The following is copied from Claypoole's American Daily Advertiser of Friday morning:

To gratify, in some degree, the public anxiety, we give the following, as being, what we have reason to believe, a tolerably correct outline as far as it goes.

When the last dispatches left our ministers they had not been, nor were they likely to be acknowledged by the French Directory. They had, however, had some conferences with two persons (whose names are omitted by the president, and are designated by the letters X and Y) who informed them that they were commissioned by Talleyrand Perigord the minister for foreign affairs, to wait on the envoys extraordinary from the United States, to state to them upon what terms an advantageous treaty might be made with the French Directory. These terms were, that in the first place, a *docteur* of fifty thousand pounds sterling should be made to Talleyrand Perigord; and that as the Directory were greatly in want of money, the United States must engage to purchase from them, a debt of sixteen millions of florins, due from the Batavian to the French republic (but which they are at present unable to pay) by way of loan to the French. X and Y stated that these were the only conditions upon which the American ministers could expect a favourable reception from the Directory.

X and Y dwelt much on the power and resources of the French republic, and of the consequences which must inevitably ensue to the United States, from a war with France, referring to the fate of Venice and other countries, whose views had been inimical to the interests of France; adding, that the Directory were well informed as to the divided state of opinion in this country; and that the misunderstanding betwixt the two republics, had been owing to measures injurious to France, which had been brought forward and supported in the government of this country, by what we call the *federal party*, but by what they call the *British faction*.

That our ministers had afterwards an interview with M. Perigord himself, who informed them, that before any negotiation could take place, it was indispensably necessary that the terms which had been proposed to them by X and Y, should be complied with.

It does not appear that our ministers have held any conference with any of the members of the Executive Directory themselves.

Our ministers suspect that Merlin, the minister of marine, is peculiarly interested in all prizes carried into French ports, and that it is not likely, therefore, that they will diminish in number.

From the PHILADELPHIA GAZETTE.

After considerable discussion, the senate yesterday determined to make public all the communications lately received by congress from the president of the United States, relative to our dispute with France, (except the instructions which were given by the executive to our commissioners) by ordering 500 copies of the dispatches to be printed. The printed copies will probably be laid before the senate on Monday next.

A correspondent assures us that the following may be depended upon as the leading points of these important communications:

Fifty thousand pounds sterling to Talleyrand Perigord, as a *docteur*, for a promise of an interview! but he would not engage for any reconciliation.

A loan required for thirty-two millions of florins (inferiptions of Holland) which was then selling at ten shillings in the pound. This to be under a secret article of treaty, so as not to be known to Great-Britain.

When the amount of the French spoiliations shall be known, double the sum shall be lent by the United States to France, which she will repay when convenient.

Question (by Mr. Marshall.) How much money do you require?

Answer. As much as your people can pay!

Our commissioners replied, that the people of America had been warmly concerned for the establishment of the liberties of France. That when all the powers of Europe were against France, still America had stood her friend—Notwithstanding, the Directory had ordered spoiliations to be committed upon us without cause, to a considerable amount—that the government of America was virtuous—that it had the most ardent disposition to reconcile existing differences, and that they were willing to sacrifice every thing not inconsistent with national honour and independence, to effect this desired end—but that they had no orders to pay money.

The answer was, that the president of the United States had offended the French republic and the Directory very much, in his speech, at the opening of the extra session of congress—that they could not effect a reconciliation without money—that the government of France was terrible to its enemies, and to prove this, it was only necessary to view the situation of Venice, Hamburg, Geneva and Genoa.

Our commissioners answered them, that those governments were small, and near to France; but that the United States was POWERFUL WITHIN ITSELF, and would not submit its LIBERTY WITHOUT A STRUGGLE.

To which it was replied, that the French had a strong party in America, warmly attached to their cause. That it would be impossible for the United States to carry on a war, because the people were divided, and very unwilling to fight the French.—That even money could not secure the whole number of the Directory, because MERLIN received his pay better from another source.

Our envoys said, that they supposed it was from matters and owners of privateers, to which they nodded assent.

That X, Y, Z, and a lady, were the persons employed to communicate with our commissioners, who said that Talleyrand was powerful—had great influence in France and with the Directory—and that he would probably retain his popularity for 6 months.—That it would be a very unfortunate situation for the United States and France to be engaged in a war, when probably a party better disposed to favour the interest of America might hereafter be admitted into the admini-