

By letters from Holland, we learn that the French Directory have pushed the new government to a very active exertion. A requisition of every fifth man, without any other distinction except as to age, is going on with inconceivable rigour; and the French expect to get by this means a considerable body of seamen, or at least of men who, from their habit of living upon water, may soon be rendered highly serviceable on board their ships. The assembly have determined to provide 1000 vessels, which may be used as transports, and which, from their form, may go into shallow water; and it was the general opinion of the people that this armament was preparing in Holland to favour the more formidable enterprise from the port of Brest.

April 11.

ELECTIONS IN FRANCE.

The state of the elections in France is the most important feature in its internal situation, which the last papers exhibit. The Directory for some time past have made all the elections a principal object of attention, and have spared no pains to lead the public opinion to such a choice of representatives as might secure them from the opposition which they encountered from the new third last year. It does not appear, however, that all the proclamations they have issued have been of much avail. As far as they have proceeded, the elections, in many places, have been tempestuous and divided. In many of the primary assemblies, the most violent contests have taken place. The character of the electoral assemblies, where it has been yet ascertained, is far from answering the hopes of the Directory, is the subject of undigested disapprobation and anxiety.

In consequence of these appearances of opposition, the Directory has published a new proclamation, in which they remind the public, that the legislative body has the power of judging of the operations of the electoral assemblies; and that, as on the 18th Fructidor, the traitors who disgraced the national representation were expelled from its bosom, the traitors who are desirous to enter it will likewise be excluded. It is evident from this warning, that the Directory are determined to prevent the necessity of another 18th Fructidor, by admitting into the councils none but those on whom they can depend.

How this pretension of the executive power to pronounce beforehand on the choice of the nation, will be relished by the people of France, it is not easy to determine. In September last, the Directory and the party in the councils, desirous of their assistance, were supported by the decided voice of the army. To their opinion, and for support in case of resistance. There does exist at present, if the Directory themselves are to be believed, or if we can rely upon appearances, a considerable degree of fermentation in the public mind. The present elections therefore, deserve considerable attention; as parties will, in all probability, there endeavour to try their strength, and the final result must tend either to consolidate or to shake the stability of the present government of France.

April 12.

Yesterday a cabinet council was held, at which all the ministers in town attended.—It is conjectured, that the object of the council's meeting was to consider of the propriety of recommending a general arming of the people, by forming associations in every district of the kingdom; the time of exercise to be so appointed as to interfere as little as possible with the occupations of those who are engaged in business, but who are still anxious to show their zeal in the defence of the country.

Although this measure of a general arming has probably been long under consideration, we are led to think that it has been hastened by the accounts which, as we stated yesterday, government has received within the last few days from France. It is not merely at Brest and at Harve where the preparations for invasion are in the greatest forwardness, but the same activity is employed in almost every port of France and Holland, from Rochefort to the Texel. At Harve, where the greatest number of gun-boats is building, the soldiers were called out of their beds twice last week, during the most tempestuous weather, to the exercise of manœuvring with caanon in and out of these boats, as if they were actually preparing to land in this country. This was done, no doubt in order to render the men accustomed and expert to this kind of exercise, as well as to conceal the precise moment when they may really be called upon to embark on the expedition against England.—The best information confirms the opinion, that the French will endeavor to carry their views into effect by a coup de main. The powers granted to Bounaparte, as our readers will see by the late attitude of the directory, are of the most unlimited and extensive nature, as he has the entire command of this expedition both by sea and land.—The French have enforced the requisition in Holland of every fifth man.

It is perfectly true that his majesty intends to hoist the royal standard in the camp about to be marked out near Windsor, in which neighbourhood very large magazines of flour are now forming, so as to supply the environs of the metropolis in case the enemy should effect a landing in either of the adjacent counties lying near the sea, by which there might be a momentary interruption to the communication with the port of London.

Dispatches were yesterday received at lord Grenville's office from Lisbon, which are understood to contain an intimation of a treaty of peace between France and Portugal being in a considerable state of forwardness, through the mediation of the court of Spain. The Irish mail of the 7th instant, arrived yesterday, and also a king's messenger from Dublin. The probabilities continue in the most alarming state of disturbance; and such are the apprehensions entertained even

in the capitol, that iron gates are about to be erected on all the bridges of the river Liffey, which runs through the city, at each of which a strong military guard is to be stationed.

Lord Bridport is ordered to cruise with the channel fleet between the Lizard and the cove of Cork, and a squadron is to be sent to cruise off the Irish coast, from Cork to the bay of Galway.

Extract of a letter from Portsmouth, April 10.

"We are all in a buile here, orders having been received for the grand fleet to put to sea, which is expected to sail to-morrow morning, under the command of lord Bridport. Should the Brek fleet venture out, we have every hope that we shall soon see more men of war safely moored in our own ports."

It has long been evident, that the French have determined to revolutionize the kingdom of Naples. The inhabitants of that country have resolved to reject the demands of the French, and to defend themselves with vigour. But what resistance can they make to the arms of France? Their resistance comes too late. Their arming in their own defence will be a reason of war. If France is determined to revolutionize Naples, there seems no probability that it can oppose effectual resistance. If ambition is to be the rule of action (as we see it) no power can stand but that which can defend itself. In the present state of politics, a nation that is unable or unwilling to maintain its independence by force of arms, will very soon be no nation at all.

We learn by a letter from Venice, of the 14th ultimo, that an Austrian army is assembling in the vicinity of Verona, which is to be joined by a part of the garrison of Venice.

April 14.

The city of Hamburg has paid the sum of six millions livres as a contribution, to be excused from a loan of twelve millions of ducats.

April 16.

A letter from the Hague, dated April 10, says— "Our republic will take a very active part in the expedition preparing against England.—There are now equipping in our ports, more than a thousand transports, which are to sail next month for the coast of France."

NEW-YORK, June 1.

The following important article is copied from Lloyd's Evening Post, of April 24, 1798

"Among the reports which the non-arrival of any intelligence from France has, within these few days, given rise to, is the following: that the American commissioners at Paris have been ordered to depart, and that all American property in France, which is supposed to amount to near 3,000,000*l.* is to be confiscated."

Annapolis, June 7.

WE, the Grand Jurors of the General Court of the western shore, of the state of Maryland, held at the city of Annapolis, on Tuesday the eighth day of May, 1798, agree to the following address to be forwarded to the President of the United States.

To the PRESIDENT, SENATE, and HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WE, the Grand Jurors of the General Court for the western shore, of the state of Maryland, viewing with much concern the situation of the United States with respect to the republic of France, feel it our duty to express our entire confidence in your wisdom and virtue, and our perfect attachment to the government of our choice.

We have heard with disgust that the Americans are considered as a divided people, and feel, with becoming indignation, the insult offered the American nation by the ruling party in France.

At a time when our country is threatened by an arbitrary overbearing nation, we cannot be silent, we therefore think proper to assure you that we heartily approve of the conduct of the executive in its endeavours to reconcile our differences with the French republic, and as the measures which have been heretofore adopted, have not had the desired effect, we now assure you that we will, to the utmost extremity, support whatever steps may be thought necessary for the vindication of our rights, and to maintain the honour of the American name, and the independence of its people.

WILLIAM STEUART, Foreman.

A N S W E R

To the GRAND JURORS of the GENERAL COURT of the Western Shore of the State of Maryland.

GENTLEMEN,

I THANK you for the expressions in your address, of your entire confidence in the president, senate, and house of representatives of the United States, and of your attachment to the government of your choice; of your approbation of the measures of the executive authority in its endeavours to reconcile our differences with the French republic, and of your determination to support, to the utmost extremity, whatever steps may be thought necessary, for the vindication of our rights, to maintain the honour of the American name, and the independence of its people.

JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, May 19, 1798.

To the CITIZENS of ANNAPOLIS.

SORRY I am to find, that the citizens of Annapolis are so backward in forming themselves into companies. The dreadful cloud that seems to hang over us, and the destruction which we are daily threatened

with from a foreign power, ought to rouse every free man to come forward and support the dignity and independence of his country; never let it be said that America, the nursery of liberty, shall ever give way to any foreign power on earth. No, rather let us perish as one body, than yield to base submission.—What is then to be done in order to save ourselves? Why, let us fly to arms and learn the use of them, and if our country should have occasion to call us out, we shall then know how to point them against the foes of America. It gives me pain to think our harbour is not fortified, and as congress has neglected us, it would be well for the citizens of Annapolis to think of putting their harbour in a proper state of defence; the time has arrived in which every preparation ought to be made, for by being prepared it may secure to ourselves and our posterity the blessings of liberty, and be the means of checking the miseries and calamities of a war; if it is not done, and that shortly too, we shall probably repent the hour it was neglected; there are a number of wealthy citizens in this place, who, I have no doubt, would, if a paper was handed to them, contribute largely towards doing up and completing the fortifications. Rather than see the metropolis of Maryland in so defenceless a state, I will pledge myself to come forward and do every thing in my power for the protection of the citizens; if it is the wish of the citizens to turn out, and form themselves into a company, I will resign the commission I now hold, and once more head them as commander.

A CITIZEN.

For the MARYLAND GAZETTE.

GENTLEMEN,

AN earlier departure than I first designed, precluded me from the honour of delivering the following Valedictory Epilogue, I offer it for insertion in your paper, if it merits such a distinction; by publishing the piece in your next, you will oblige some friends to the Theatre, as well as

Your obedient servant,

CH. C. M'GRATH.

Annapolis, Monday morning, 4th June.

Messrs F & S. GREEN.

MR. M'GRATH'S INTENDED FAREWELL ADDRESS TO ANNAPOLIS.

DEAR, generous friends, the short lived season's joy, And summer's joys we must soon explore, Yet, here we part, permit, ye brave, ye fair, A heart oblig'd its dictates to declare; Nor speak I here my sentiments alone, We all delight your patronage to own, Our joints with candour you have fill'd past by, Our merits notice'd with the friendli' eye, Each night's performance has been kindly grac'd With candid auditors of sense and taste, But vain, alas! were all the poet's art, And vain the actor's ever to impart, The debt of gratitude which here I owe, Or as I feel my sentiments to show; And yet—believe, I speak for all within, Ingratitude shall never be our sin, For where fewer vicissitudes shall lead Our future steps th' uncertain paths to tread, Yet still on hope's exalted pinions borne, I'll look unceasing for the wish'd return, 'Till that dear moment that presents again My drama's cultures on Annapolis plain, May ev'ry blessing fortune can bestow, May all the happiness that mortals know Be yours, my patrons, in the amplest sense, And Heav'n unceasingly its gifts dispense On this assemblage—such is my Adieu, And such my heart-felt wish for You and You!

ALL persons indebted to ROBERT CHRISTIE, Esq; of London, are requested to pay their respective balances to the subscriber, who is fully authorized to receive and give acquittals for the same; those who do not comply with this notice within reasonable time suits will be commenced against them. Cash, bills of exchange on London, or tobacco, will be received in payment.

J. H. STONE.

Annapolis, May 30, 1798.

NOTICE is hereby given, that I intend to petition Baltimore county court, at their next September term, for a commission to mark and bound the following tracts of land, to wit: CULLIN'S LOT, CULLIN'S ADDITION, and TOLLEY'S PURCHASE, lying in Baltimore county.

AQUILA HALL.

June 1, 1798.

Edward J. Pryse,
Saddler and Harness-maker,
Church-street.

AFTER returning his sincere thanks for the generous patronage of his friends, and soliciting continuance of their favours, begs leave to inform the public in general, that he still continues to carry on the above business in all its various branches, and that he is now supplied with the best materials for that purpose. He hath now in employ some of the best workmen on the continent, and promises that those who honour him with their commands, may rest on having their work executed in the best and neatest manner. Orders from the country will be thankfully received and duly attended to.

N. B. Two apprentices wanted to the above business.

Annapolis, May 10, 1798.