

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J U L Y 12, 1798.

L O N D O N, April 29.

HE preparations for a descent, are continued in all the ports of France, with unremitting activity. The undivided application of their exhausted finances to this favourite service, and the species of troops which they have destined for it, are sufficient proof that the Directory have something more in view than an idle scheme of terrifying this country, or acquiring a momentary popularity in their own—Their situation at this moment is that of a bankrupt who employs his last resources in the purchase of a lottery ticket: there is at last a prospect of success, and if it fails them they will be ruined "a little sooner," but not with greater certainty, than they would have been if they had never attempted to impracticable a project.

We are told, that in addition to the immense armament collected at Flushing, gun boats and rafts of a particular construction, are building in all the ports opposite to our eastern coasts. As the mouths of all these harbours are too narrow to admit of the passage of a square-raft of the large size, it is intended that these new ones shall be constructed in an oblong form, and that they shall be grappled and lashed together as soon as they are out of the harbour.

This may be very absurd; but it is an absurdity upon which our enemies have set their hearts; to which they sacrifice all the plunder of Rome, and their other favourite; but, as it appears subordinate, project of amassing at Paris all the miracles of ancient art.—For this project they are preparing to sacrifice their best troops, the army of Italy, and their most distinguished officers, who have been elected, and devoted to this desperate enterprise.—If, indeed, that can be called a sacrifice, on the part of a government who would feel themselves disencumbered of a set of dangerous and importunate claimants upon the bankruptance of a government, whose every principle and rule of policy is grounded on an indifference to human suffering, and a contempt for human life.

D U B L I N, April 18.

At a moment so awfully critical as the present, when rebellion has dared to shew its head in various quarters of the kingdom—and when the French are openly and avowedly making the most formidable preparations for invasion, the conduct of certain characters, who might be expected to take an active part on the side of their sovereign and country, is a subject of general speculation. Cold—reserved—insensitive, not disapproving by words, or deeds; they look on the progress of treason, so alarming to all other men, with the insensibility of Muscovites. We do not say that the public have a right to demand an explanation of their motives to so strange a topic, when every man who seems to oppose the rebels and the French is sensibly directed to the dangers with which we are threatened; but this obvious truth flashes on every mind—if we should perish in the conflict, they will merit eternal and the blackest reproach—and if the constitution of king, lords and commons shall surrive the storm which is gathering to cover them all with one destruction, they will be entitled to no thanks.

It is said, that in Limerick twenty united men came voluntarily forward and took the oaths of allegiance, declaring that they had no arms concealed.—By way of proving their sincerity, their houses were searched, and no arms found in them all. This will shew what will be the consequence of lenient measures indiscriminately pursued.

A remarkable instance of the treachery and cowardice of the United Irishmen. ("a name expressive of every thing which vitiate or degrade human nature,") and the gallantry of a private of the 7th dragoon guards, occurred, on Thursday night, within a few miles of the town of Philips-town, in the King's county.—The soldier, on his way to quarters, was prevented upon by six men to drink with them at the door of a public house; a seditious toast having been proposed, the soldier expressed his disapprobation in terms of loyal indignation; he was instantly fired at by the six assassins; his horse was killed, but he himself escaped unhurt, and extricating his pistol from the saddle while the horse was in the act of falling, he shot the foremost ruffian through the body; he then drew his sword and as the rest of the banditti endeavoured to close on him, he cut off the head of one, and desperately wounded a third, whom he took into custody, and the others fled.

B O S T O N, July 2.

Captain Clement, arrived here yesterday, from the island of France, informs that the request of Tipu Saib to the government of the island, for military assistance had been complied with, and that the troops had been ordered to the coast, and that the object of Tipu was a war against the English; and as a proof of his attachment to the French, he had made overtures for effecting an alliance, offensive and defensive.

Captain C. also informs, that a few days previous to his sailing, a second St. Domingo scene was plotted by the sans-culottes—but that a timely discovery had prevented its dreadful consequences; that the terror which this infernal scheme produced among the inhabitants, had caused the troops to be ordered away; and that they had all actually embarked for France. A vessel from Lisbon, arrived at Halifax, brings intelligence of lord St. Vincent's fleet having captured and sent in a Spanish ship worth 3,000,000 dollars.

N E W - Y O R K, July 2.

We are happy to learn how generally the spirit of arming in defence of our country is diffusing itself. The flame of patriotism, like that of 1775, is rapidly spreading—the citizens even go before our legislature in spirit of preparation for defence. The commercial towns are raising money to build or equip vessels of force, the citizens are aiding the repair of our fortifications; and young men in Philadelphia, New-York and New-Haven are already enrolled and under discipline for public service. We trust these examples will be imitated in every part of the union. "Old men for council—and young men for arms," is the maxim that prevails. We trust in six months one hundred thousand young men will be disciplined, officered and adorned with the badge of their patriotism, the American cockade.

July 3.

There is at Quebec a sixty-four gun ship, which we understand has been offered for sale to government. She was launched the 14th May last, and is in complete sailing order, having her guns and water casks on board.

It is to be wished, that government perceiving the great service she may be, particularly as a defence to the port of New-York, and the delay attending the building of vessels, will be inclined to extend permission to the president to purchase said ship.

The merchant's subscription amounted yesterday to between 72 and 75,000 dollars. Notwithstanding the subscription progresses more slowly than could be wished, we doubt not but it will ultimately be as considerable as that of any state in the union.

April 27, capt. Henchman was boarded by a French privateer of 12 four-pounders, who informed him that a decree was passed in France, that no American vessel should be troubled. He likewise said there were 180,000 men ready for embarking to invade England. He had the day before burnt and sunk 4 English vessels, between the Sheen Lighter and Flamborough Head, and drove one ship on shore while we were in sight of him.

L E X I N G T O N, May 30.

The public are cautioned against counterfeit post notes, of the bank of Baltimore—a person from one of the southern states, has lately passed through the settlements of Cumberland, where he put a number of those counterfeits into circulation, and came from thence into this state, last week. We have our information from a gentleman of respectability, immediately from Nashville, who had in his possession one of the counterfeits.

About a fortnight since, two men who had stolen several horses from the neighbourhood of Louisville, were pursued as far as St. Vincennes, and as they had passed that place, the pursuers employed two men there, to follow them, and if possible, overtake and bring them back. Messrs. Beard and Harbin were the persons employed at St. Vincennes, who followed and took both thieves, and handcuffed them. On their return, one evening when they had encamped, Slaughter, one of the thieves, slipped off his handcuffs, and whilst Beard was some distance from the fire, caught up one of the guns belonging to the pursuers, and shot Harbin dead on the spot.—Beard ran up on hearing the gun, and as he approached, Slaughter snatched the other gun at him, two or three times. Beard having a tomahawk in hand, rushed up and tomahawked him.—We have this information from two gentlemen who live in Louisville, where the other prisoner is in goal.

P H I L A D E L P H I A, Jan. 30.

All is quiet at the fort—the vessels with the French passengers on board, have been safely moored under the guns.

Extract of a letter from the supercargo of the American ship *Sain Americain*, detained at the Fort, dated 28th June, 1799.

We have been this moment notified by the health officers, that all vessels having French passengers on board must weigh anchor—that they must moor themselves under the cannon of the fort, or under those of the ship of war Delaware, now lying here; in consequence of the report of the captain of the ship Josephus, arrived here three days ago from Jersey (who has many negroes on board belonging to his passengers) that they did not live on board his vessel, and committed other insults, as he says, of which I do not believe the half. It is the opinion of the other captains that this man is tired of his passengers, and would gladly disembarrass himself of them as soon as possible, in order not to be detained when his quarantine is finished. It is very certain that on board no other vessel, where there are negro passengers, has there been any cause of complaint.—From this, Sir, new obstacles to detain us have arisen, in which there is no real foundation."

July 5.

A vessel arrived at New-York from Lisbon on Friday evening last—her letters are to the 12th May. A letter dated at New-York, Saturday morning, says—the captain of the above vessel reports lord Jervis was off Lisbon with his whole fleet and a hundred sail of transports—that Spain was negotiating a peace with England—that a courier had arrived at Lisbon from Madrid, on which a packet was immediately dispatched for London.

Letters from Spain inform, that the crew of the Spanish privateer which captured the ship Hunter, captain Whitlock, were all imprisoned at Algeziras for having mal-treated captain Whitlock's crew.

Arrived at the fort, the schooner Dick, captain Lillibridge, in 10 days from Cape-Francois. An embargo was expected to be laid soon after capt. Lillibridge sailed. No accounts had been received there of the war measures of our government. Captain Barney was at the Cape, and had applied for permission to come to America, but as he held a commission under the French government, he was ordered to France. There were 8 or 10 vessels, from different parts of the United States at the Cape, none of which belonged to this port.

Extract of a letter from captain Silsbee, of the ship *Portland*, of Boston, to a gentleman in this town, dated GENOA, April 6.

"The French have a great expedition on foot in this quarter, the destination of which is not publicly known. They are fitting out transports from this, Marseilles, Leghorn, and all the neighbouring ports; they had taken up 83 vessels in this port, some days ago; and on the 3d inst. they laid an embargo on all vessels not then loaded and ready for sea, in consequence of their having a notion for an additional number of 50 ships, and on the day following, all vessels in port were examined, for the purpose of selecting the most commodious of them for their use. The French entirely govern in this quarter."

Last week several vessels arrived at the fort with a considerable number of French royalists from Port au Prince. Much uneasiness was excited by the alleged disorderly behaviour of these people and their hostile dispositions to the American government.

The governor of Pennsylvania deemed it his duty to prolong the term of quarantine, that the federal government might, if it saw fit, interpose its authority. He of course made a communication of the facts to the president, who communicated them to congress. The correspondence was published, and produced the following statement. From the information furnished by this statement and from other considerations we understand that apprehension has subsided, and that the persons will be permitted to land.

REPLY OF THE FRENCH ROYALISTS.

WE, the undersigned, captain, owner, passengers, of the armed ship *Melpomene*, now forcibly detained in the river Delaware, and placed between the cannon of Fort Mifflin and those of the American sloop of war the *Delaware*, having been injured and defamed by the falsehoods and misrepresentations that have been circulated respecting us, and particularly by those contained in a letter from Pickerton to the president of the board of health, and in an extract of a letter from major Toulard to the secretary of war, we feel ourselves called upon, as well for the sake of our reputation as our interest, to give thereto an explicit and public reply.

We therefore, attest, with the solemnity of an oath, that all the pretended facts, stated in the above mentioned letters, are false, groundless and calumnious, as far as relate to us; that the truth is, we are all peaceable people and of good character, and that we all have fortunes more or less considerable, already lodged in the United States of America; that we have besides, sums on board more than sufficient to convince the government that we are not vagabonds, and "without any funds," as has been asserted by the said and general David Pickerton; the falsehood of whose assertion it is extremely easy for us to prove to the satisfaction of any person who may be sent to verify the fact.

There are at this moment on board the ship, 56 white passengers, of whom 29 are men, 16 women, and 11 children; 55 negroes, of whom 27 are men, 22 women, and 7 children. All the slaves have followed their owners from choice, and are, as David Pickerton says, "attached to the masters interest," but not one of them is armed, nor is there one of them that ever bore arms.