

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, A U G U S T 9, 1798.

### ST. MARCOU, May 9.

Today break on Monday morning, we discovered the enemy's flotilla, laying on their oars between the west island and the French coast, the weather perfectly calm; the ships of this station were in sight, but too remote to render us the least assistance.—The enemy approached, and having tried their range of shot, commenced a very heavy cannonade; they fired and advanced progressively, and so gallant and daring was the assault, that nothing but the most determined courage could have repelled them. They approached in a manner apparently resolved to reach the shore; when six or seven started ahead to effect a landing, the grape and case shot from the west island, and shells thrown from the east island, sunk them. The action lasted without a moment's intermission for two hours and five minutes, when a large brig, in which it is supposed general Musken was embarked, seeing the desperate resistance they met with, and desirous to save some of the vessels that were with difficulty kept afloat, hoisted his fore-top-sail and bore up for La Hougue. The firing from the flotilla immediately ceased, and the smoke having subsided we discovered them retreating. One of the flats being leaky from shot, was abandoned by the crew, when lieut. Bourne sent a jolly-boat to take possession of her; but although the boat in doing so advanced within range of the guns of the retiring squadron, they were unwilling to renew the contest. The flat has been drawn on the east island, as it is intended to be sent to England, that the inspection of it may tranquillize the minds of those who tremble at the threats of invasion. This boat, which was one of the smallest, measures in the keel 56 feet. She carried an 18 pounder in her bow, and 6 pounder on a field carriage, in her stern. There are grooves in the deck for the wheels to traverse, nearly the depth of half the diameter of the wheel. The guns are mounted on carriages remain in her. She had a number of scaling ladders on board. Her papers state the number of persons belonging to her to have been 144; namely, 1 serjeant-major, 2 serjeants, 8 corporals, 2 grenadiers, 91 privates, 4 artillery men, and the rest seamen. From hence it is calculated that the whole force employed against us exceeded 8000 men.

The carnage of the enemy was very considerable; we have accounts from the coast this morning which state their loss to have been 1200 men. The decks and boards that have floated from the sunken vessel are died with blood of the sufferers.

Carpentier commanded the naval part of this expedition. Musken the military.

The gun-boats are again coming out of La Hougue, and appear to be directing their course round Cape Barleur.—Our intelligence from the continent states Cherbourg to be the place of rendezvous, and that Jersey and Guernsey are to be immediately attacked.

The enemy thought Sir Sidney Smith was with us, and attributed our resolute resistance to his presence.

The islands are covered with the enemy's grape and shells.—On the east island the roof of an old church used as a magazine, and which contained a large quantity of powder, was shot away, the bloody flag was twice perforated and some trivial damage done to the block-houses.

Two frigates came out of Havre bason at these last spring tides, but owing to the great desertion of their people, could not put to sea. The Arethusa was stationed off the port to watch their motion.

In the flat we found the body of one man so entangled in the wreck that we could, with difficulty disengage it; the top of the head was shot off.

The Directory must appoint new generals and fresh men, if they wish to carry this place; for I do not believe any of those who survived the late action can again be induced to attack us.

stern and quarters a great deal, but not attended with that loss of men as might have been expected. Seeing the little impression they made, the admiral judged it prudent to sheer off, which they effected by their sweeps, and all the boats of the squadron towing ahead. They made their attack on the Victorious in the most resolute manner; Le Seine, though the smallest, determined to board, and rigged her booms out for that purpose; but a well directed broadside from the Victorious killed her captain, and about 80 of her crew fell, or were wounded with it; and before she could get from under the Victorious's guns, was hulled upwards of 80 times. Capt. Clerke received a very severe wound from his scymitar being torn from his hand by a grape shot; it lacerated his thigh, and caused a great effusion of blood, which obliged him to quit the deck; but he almost immediately returned, which again occasioned a violent hemorrhage, he was forced below, a mortification being apprehended. At the time the action commenced, the Victorious was short of her complement near one quarter, her first lieutenant an experienced officer, and 90 of her men, having been sent from Pul Penang with a valuable store ship, to join admiral Rainier at the Mulaccas. Although the very fortunate circumstance of the light wind to the frigates allowed them to get off, yet the consequences of this defeat were at that time of the first importance in India; it forced the French squadron to Mergui, at a time when both coasts were open to their depredations; and on a report of their condition to admiral Serizy, from the consequences of this action, he was forced to Batavia, where three of the frigates were obliged to undergo a thorough repair; and it so disappointed the prospects of their cruise, that from Batavia they returned to the islands, and did not again sail from thence till the 18th of August last. Admiral Serizy and his officers, both at Batavia and the islands, made the most honourable mention of the bravery and conduct of captain Clerke, and the gallant defence made by the Victorious in such particular circumstances, against the force.

### BOSTON, July 20.

The French Directory have taken effectual means to destroy the popularity of Buonaparte. He is now the mere tennis ball of their caprice.

July 28.

### AUTHENTIC.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in London, dated May 23.

"The development of the dispatches of the American envoys, has made some little fluttering at Paris. Notwithstanding the vigilance of the ministers of police and justice, they have got into the papers; and made long faces in the palace of the Directory. But these monarchs know how to get rid of the business; they have but to fulminate a little louder against British influence, Pitt's guineas, and American delusion, through the medium of the Redacteur, and *Painé's Journal*, and the wonder will subside; or at least, if this will not do, they can throw all the blame on Talleyrand, dismiss him from office, send him on some foreign embassy, appoint another minister as bad, or worse than he, and continue their piracies.—This is easily done at Paris. In this country, loyalty every day increases.—Sheridan has volunteered his services against the French—the duke of Clarence has offered to go captain of the fleet, to lord Duncan; but has been refused.—The voluntary subscriptions exceed two millions sterling. Ireland, is in a measure, tranquil; notwithstanding all the raw head and bloody bone stories, which a set of unprincipled scoundrels are continually writing and disseminating.—We are in hopes here of a treaty of alliance, on the broadest basis, with the United States. Such an alliance would defy the world in arms; and in a few years conquer all the French, Dutch and Spanish dominions in the New World."

### HARTFORD, (Con.) July 31.

Sunday the 8th inst. a melancholy accident happened at Woodbury; two boys, sons of Mr. James Davidson, of that town, returning home from public worship, in passing through a grove of timber were met by a sudden shower of rain, attended with thunder and a gust of wind; the lads had entered a small distance when the trees began to fall around them—they attempted to make their escape back the way they came; but the eldest, aged about 15, in attempting to cross a fence was met by a tree which put a period to his existence; the youngest boy providentially made his escape to the nearest house, where assistance was obtained to go in search of the unfortunate victim. The following Sunday a funeral sermon was delivered at the meeting-house, by the rev. Noah Benedict, from *Behold not thyself of to-morrow for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.*

### COOPERSTOWN, July 19.

By a gentleman lately from Canada, we are informed that the Canadians are very generally well dis-

posed towards the United States; in his passage from Montreal, up the river St. Lawrence to St. Regis, the Indians of that village, gave him the name of *Cayengoregowa*, or *Great Arrow*, and appeared enthusiastically attached to the American cause; in his passage up the river, through *Swagatche* to Kingston, the Indians received him with every mark of respect and friendship; declaring that they were ready to take up the hatchet in favour of the United States, whenever called on.—That the Canadians, and even the Tories were united in the sentiment, that the cause of the United States is just; and that a disposition is evinced in the latter to purchase lands and remove into our territory; declaring that they will, in that case, steadfastly support our constitution.

### NEW-YORK July 30.

The Mercury in Fahrenheit's thermometer, at half after one yesterday, was at 91 degrees.

At the beginning of May, the French republic had in pay, upwards of 127,000 sailors and marines; including about 20,000 who were drafted from the armies, having formerly frequented the seas. It was expected that 7 or 8000 more would be taken from the privateers.

The common price of a hundred and eight pounds of wheat in all the departments of France, during the month of Ventose was two dollars and three cents. In the department of Pas de Calais (formerly the county of Artois) it was sold for one dollar and ninety-five cents, this was the lowest price in the whole republic.

It has been mentioned in several papers, that Buonaparte was on board the Toulon fleet; this account we know to be unfounded. He left Paris towards the latter part of April, and private letters from Bourdeaux of May 20, mention that he had been on the 9th, at Rochefort, and inspected the armaments in that port, consisting of 11 ships of the line, 23 frigates, and a great number of large transports.

For the 2 years last past the English have been almost entirely excluded from the Levant trade which was during that epoch, exclusively in the hands of the alone has more Italian allies. This circumstance former degree of prosperity to us and to restore the in the south of France. The last fair at Beaucaire was more crowded than any before in the recollection of any person living. Immense quantities of French merchandise were also disposed of at the late fairs at Francfort, Mayence and Leipzig. Last year the French exported to the dominions of the Ottoman Porte merchandise and different other articles to the amount of one hundred and eighty-six millions of livres; they exported from thence to the amount of ninety-eight millions; consequently there was a balance of eighty-six millions in their favour. It must besides be considered that the imports from Turkey consisted chiefly of raw materials, such as cotton, silks, &c.

July 31.

Extract of a letter from Jeremie, dated June 21.

"I am happy to inform you, that we have the satisfaction to see arrived his majesty's ships Thunderer and Leviathan, of 80 guns each. They have convoyed 100 transports with 10,000 troops on board, destined to complete the conquest of this island; and I have every reason to think that it will be a very easy conquest as the whole island is blockaded completely, but more particularly since we all join in the common cause, that of defending our lives and property, I have no doubt that my next will bring you the glorious tidings of our being in possession of all the south side of this island."

A gentleman from Tortola, saw extracts from the London Gazette of 24th or 26th May, which contained dispatches from earl Camden to the secretary; informing that three parties of the insurgents or united Irishmen, one to the number of 5000 men, had been completely routed and upwards of 200 killed; that they had got possession of Kildare, which place they were fitting in the best posture of defence, intending it as the depot for arms and the general rendezvous—that one of the leaders, the only man taken alive, had been carried to Dublin.

The loss of the governmental troops was very trifling.

### PHILADELPHIA, July 30.

The disturbances at present raging in China do not proceed from any revolutionary principles, but from a struggle to restore the old Chinese dynasty of the emperors. Vigorous measures are employed to reduce the insurgents. The present emperor, who is the fifth of the Tartar race, was so chagrined at the success of his opponents over his own Tartar troops, that he swallowed poison; and when the last accounts came a way was very ill. The former emperor, who has resigned, is in good health; and is supposed not to be indifferent to the present state of the country.