

possession of the command of the island. They have accordingly asked for 8000 men. The French, on the other hand, whose views are of a different nature, are said to have offered to send over 45,000 men, if they can escape the vigilance, or overcome the opposition of our fleets.

A letter from Clonmell, dated June 29, says, "This day the Clare militia and Hompsch's dragoons, returned to their former quarters from the county Wexford, to the great joy of all the inhabitants of this town. Baron Hompsch has brought the pleasing account of the rebels at the barony of Forth having surrendered themselves to the discretion of general Lake, who pardoned them all, except the officers, who were shot in the most public manner."

NASSAU, (N. P.) August 14.

By some wrecking vessels just arrived from the westward, a report is brought of a severe action having lately taken place between two Spanish king's brigs, and the Hero privateer, Cockburn, of this port. The circumstances are thus related—The Hero had captured a valuable Spanish ship out of a fleet, to which there were brigs and other armed vessels convoy. Immediately after taking possession of the prize, the two brigs bore down for her; and the only alternative in captain Cockburn's power was to abandon his prize, or engage the two brigs to favour her getting off. With the unanimous voice of his people, he adopted the latter, and a warm action soon commenced.—By superior address he prevented both of the vessels acting with much effect at the same time; and at last compelled one of them, formerly the Hezekiah of Bermuda, to strike. At this moment the smoke clearing away, a large ship either of the line or a frigate, was seen coming down under a press of sail; she soon got within gun shot, when the Hero was obliged to relinquish her hardly earned acquisition.

There is no account received of the ship that was taken possession of.

August 28.

On Saturday arrived here from convoying two homeward bound vessels to the latitude of 32, and cruise, his majesty's sloop of war Musketo, captain Whyte.

Off the coast of South Carolina, the Musketo had a rencontre with the American revenue brig Unanimity, captain Cochran; respecting which our readers will find ample details in the following extract:

Extract from the Musketo's log-book.

"Nothing remarkable occurred till the 29th July, at 1 P. M. discovered at brig bearing down on us under her top-sails. Supposing her to be a cruiser, cleared for action. At 2h. 30m. the brig hauled her wind on the starboard tack, hoisted American colours, and made all sail on the wind. The Musketo instantly tacked, fired a gun, and hoisted English colours. At 3, the brig tacked and stood in for the land, bearing W. by S. On passing us, fired a shot a-head to bring her to; they paying no attention to this, but making off as fast as possible, captain Whyte ordered four shot to be fired at them. Tacked and chased the brig. At 5 P. M. the brig was close in with the breakers, off Dewees's Inlet, 22 miles N. of Charleston bar. She then tacked; we did the same; finding that the Musketo could completely cut him off from the superiority in sailing, tacked again, and wore round for the breakers; instantly followed her, and fired as our guns would bear. The brig returned a broadside, put his helm hard a-weer, and run on shore. The Musketo being then close to the breakers, and in quarter less three fathoms water, captain Whyte not having any person on board who had been on that part of the coast before judged it most prudent to haul the ship off into deeper water. At 5h. 30m. tacked with intention to stand in, destroy the brig, and if possible save the prisoners, which would have been difficult as the sea was then making a fair roll over her. The man on the mast head called out, a strange sail on the starboard bow, bearing down on us.—Supposing it to be a pilot boat, hove to, and made the signal for a pilot. At 6h. 30m. the pilot came along side, and to captain Whyte's utter astonishment, informed him, the brig he had driven ashore, was the Unanimity of 14 six pounders and 65 men belonging to the state of South Carolina, and had failed that morning from Charleston on a cruise. On board the pilot boat were several gentlemen of respectability who had witnessed the greater part of this day's proceedings.

BOSTON, September 12.

The packet letters from England all accord in the idea, that the French Directory deprecate an open war with the United States;—that they have heard of the spirit and unanimity which pervades the continent;—that they have received an agent from the Jefferson party, advising to temporising measures; and that the probability was they would send an envoy or envoys to try their skill in America.

The emperor of Russia has improved upon the French Directory's press-gag plan. The latter swear that French printers may print; but that they shall print only what suits their sovereign will and pleasure;—whereas the Russian director swears the printers shall print nothing. It is astonishing, with what facility one tyrant imitates another.

The Swedish government has been necessitated to emit a paper currency. In detailing the causes which has produced the necessity, they say, it is partly to be attributed, "To the reclamations which the Swedes have made, in vain, to the French government, for the sum of 15,000,000 rix dollars, the amount of the cargoes of the ships taken from them." If the Swedes had referred the fraternal squeezes of the French with American spirit, they would not have been left to make their idle reclamations; or deplore

a situation the most degrading to a nation—that of emitting a paper medium.

PHILADELPHIA, September 17.

The following melancholy facts, will shew the necessity of a careful attention to domestics and others, who may be left in the city at this distressing period:

A man was found the day before yesterday, in a house in Front near Walnut-street, directly opposite the Green tree pump. The corpse was first discovered, by the very offensive smell which was found to proceed from the house.—From the time that has elapsed, since the family left the house, the corpse, it is thought, must have been laying there at least a month—it was in so high a state of putrefaction, when discovered, that it was removed by pieces to the coffin, in which it was deposited!

A man was found in a house in S. Water-street, near Chestnut, it is supposed that he had been dead near three weeks—it was discovered by a man having occasion to go into the house for some things which he had left—on opening the door, there was such a stench come out of the house, that he was obliged to retreat.

A negro man entered the house and found the body of a man almost devoured by vermin; information was given at the health office, about 4 o'clock in the afternoon—the people waited till 8 in the evening, and heard nothing from the health office—two black men were hired for 16 dollars, to take the corpse and throw it in the river.—This morning it was seen floating in the dock.

A man was found dead in a sail loft yesterday morning—the people near the sail loft say, that he was well Saturday at noon.

September 18.

Serious disturbances at the gaol.

This morning between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock, an attempt of the most alarming nature was made by a party of the criminals, in the east wing of the gaol, to destroy their keepers, and effect their escape. It was successfully repelled by the spirited conduct of Robert Wharton, Esq; and one or two others.

It appears, that, taking advantage of the visit of the attending physician, the villains seized upon the key of their apartment, forced their way out, knocked down Mr. Evans, one of the keepers, and cried out to the other criminals to come to their assistance. At the moment an axe was lifted to dispatch Mr. Evans, Mr. Wharton, who had been in a different quarter of the gaol, flew to his assistance, wounded his opponent mortally, and beat back the others. Mr. Evans recovering, and supported by the active exertions of Mr. Guefs, (and a negro, one of the criminals, who laudably opposed the design of the miscreants) they succeeded in driving the whole body into their apartment, after having mortally wounded three of the ringleaders.

To the undaunted bravery and prompt exertions of our worthy fellow-citizen Mr. R. Wharton, sufficient praise cannot be given. By his spirited conduct, seconded by Mr. Evans and Mr. Guefs, the designs of these most abandoned wretches have been happily frustrated, and the city probably preserved from devastation, or pillage.

In consequence of the fever having made its appearance in the gaol, a part of the criminals are about to be removed to West Chester gaol. The females have been removed to Morris's building.

We have not time to notice the different reports that are circulating respecting the origin of the business this morning.—Some talk of a party outdoors, that were to have joined the one from the gaol if successful.—Others represent it in a less dangerous point of view. However, we should be prepared for the worst.

BALTIMORE, September 21.

Arrived, brig Regent, captain Potts, from Madeira, which he left the 16th August, who has politely furnished us with the following articles:

The day he left Madeira, an American brig arrived there from Malaga which brought the news of general Buonaparte, with his fleet and army being blockaded in the island of Malta, and that it was expected he would be obliged to surrender to admiral Nelson, whose squadron consisted of 18 sail of the line besides frigates. The intelligence was received at Malaga by a Genoese ship, which the captain had made to be the truth.

Arrived at Madeira the same day, the British sloop of war Brilliant, from a cruise. Off the Canaries had fallen in with two French 36 gun frigates, who gave chase to the Brilliant. One of them got along side, when a running fight of four hours was kept up in which the Frenchman lost his fore and mizen masts, had eight men drowned and a number killed and wounded. Her consort coming up before she could be boarded, obliged the Brilliant to sheer off.

NORFOLK, September 15.

Constitution's prize!

In our last paper we mentioned the arrival of a ship of war taken by the United States' frigate Constitution; we are now enabled to furnish our readers with the following statement:

On the 8th inst. in lat. 33. 10, long. 70. at 6 A. M. they discovered a sail, to which they gave chase; at 10 o'clock they got along side and fired a shot over her, on which they hoisted English colours and fired a shot to leeward.—The third lieutenant was sent on board of her, and on searching, found they had

laid a train of gunpowder to the magazine to blow up the ship; the officers were dressed in the French naval uniform, and said they were French royalists, and were bound from Jamaica to Philadelphia; they had a commission from the English government, and a register and clearance from Jamaica, all of which appear to be counterfeits; they have no articles, shipping paper, or log-book on board; the crew are made up of seven French officers, Frenchmen, Spaniards, three Englishmen, Portuguese, Italians, one American, Dutch, and several negroes, in all about 75 men. A British officer, his lady and two children, and an American gentleman (of Baltimore) are passengers. She is called the Niger, is built of cedar by the Spaniards, was taken by the British 2 or 3 years ago, and sold at Jamaica;—she mounts 24 guns nine and twelve pounders, is coppered, well found, and is a remarkable fine vessel, it appears that she has a large sum of money on board, as well as 30 hogheads of sugar and 15 puncheons of rum; the crew have a great deal of money, and every one of them an American-made trunk full of goods, cloths, &c. which it is supposed they have plundered.

One of the seamen on board the Constitution has sworn that seven months ago he belonged to a schooner from Portsmouth, N. H. which was taken by a French privateer, on board of which the boatswain of the Niger was an officer, who stripped him and the crew naked, and sent them into Guadaloupe.—They have behaved in a cruel manner to the passengers, whom they turned out of the cabin, and, we understand, had attempted to poison them by giving them drugs in their wine.

There was every reason to believe the ship was cruising, as she was not assigned to any person in Philadelphia, and it is supposed has different sets of papers. They had English and national colours both seen when boarded by the officers of the Constitution; they sailed from Port-Royal to Port-Antonio with a few hands, and took the remainder on board at that place.

It also appears they could not stay at Jamaica in consequence of a proclamation issued by the governor of Jamaica, of which the subjoined are the heads:

The commander in chief has, with the advice of the privy council, issued a proclamation, under the first day of September next, all vessels having French people on board, arriving at Port-Royal from St. Domingo, shall not be suffered to pass the forts until the French passengers are carried on shore and examined with regard to their principles before John Ramsay and Dennis O'Farrel, Esq's. appointed by the proclamation commissioners of police, who will judge whether they are proper persons to have certificates granted them to go at large in the island—and all French people of every description now here, [Denizens and naturalized subjects excepted] are to appear before the honourable John Jaques, Kean Osborne, Simon Taylor, Henry Shirley, and Alexander Shaw, Esq's. to be examined by them and to receive from them police tickets, otherwise to be considered improper persons to reside in this island; and every French person travelling in the island without a police ticket, is to be taken up and carried before any justice of the peace, and in case of his or her not giving a satisfactory reason for his or her being without it, and the magistrate have reason to suppose he or she is going about with sinister views, to keep him or her in safe custody and send notice thereof to the commander in chief.

[The above prize, it is probable is the ship Niger, noted for her activity in carrying American vessels into the Mole, where they had their trial, and frequently their condemnation, before the tribunal of judge Combaud.]

Lieut. Claiborne is making preparations to receive the prisoners at Fort Norfolk, where they will be landed in 2 or 3 days.

By a gentleman passenger, we learn, that the Niger, 3 days after she was out, retook the outward bound Jamaica ships Favourite and Boushy Park, captured a short time before by a French privateer, and sent them into Port-Antonio.

By the same gentleman we are also informed, that Jeremie was evacuated on the 12th ult. by the British, and they had accounts at Jamaica that they had commenced the evacuation of Cape Nichols Mole.

Annapolis, September 27.

Extract of a letter from the Governor of Maryland to the President of the United States, dated April 18, 1798.

"My official duty having led me to this correspondence, I cannot suffer the occasion to pass without expressing the entire satisfaction which I, and I believe all others, feel in the measures the president has pursued for adjusting our differences with the French republic. They are so marked with wisdom, moderation and justice, that they ought, if similar virtues had been displayed on the side of France, to have terminated to the honour and interest of both nations. I hope, and am willing to believe, that when the instructions and the negotiation shall be fairly and impartially viewed, that both at home and abroad they must as they ought unite all men of candour and virtue, in entertaining the most honourable and favourable sentiments of our faith and justice.

"It is now high time indeed to end our differences on all minor subjects of discussion, and to unite and save the honour, dignity, and interest of the country, as well from open as secret attacks. And to this great end all my hopes and wishes are directed."