

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1799.

## PETERSBURG, November 10.

HE treaty with Britain is highly applauded by our merchants. No connexion indeed could be of more benefit to this than one with that nation. By a list published of all the exports from this port, for the current year, it appears that of 1053 foreign ships that loaded at this port 610 were British. The next greater number belonged to Denmark, which, however, were all laden for and sold to foreign countries; whereas all the British, excepting about eighteen, were for their own dominions.—Moreover, among the articles exported by the British, were about 9000 barrels salted beef, of which no other nation will take a barrel. I am informed that the last mentioned article is occasioned by the high price in Britain and Ireland, which has induced your government to permit the navy contractors to purchase here, where it has in general, been bought, barrels included, below 10 shillings, British, the hundred weight. If your government should draw the connexion between the two countries still closer, we shall be able to support the British armies and navy, even in their West-India islands, cheaper than they can have it from America.

## LONDON, February 27.

Packet Office, 4 o'clock.

We stop the press to state, that an express has just been received at Lord Grenville's office, which, we are assured, brings the pleasant intelligence, that the *Proserpine* frigate is safe, with all her crew; and that Mr. Grenville and his suite landed on the continent early in the month.

Some irregular sets of French papers, to the 18th instant, reached town yesterday by way of Holland; and likewise some Leyden papers were received by the same conveyance.

These gazettes tend to confirm the report, concerning the order issued by the French directory, for the requisition of new levies of men. A similar order has been issued by the Batavian republic, ordaining, "That all citizens, without exception, are enjoined to serve in person in the armies. No one is to be exempted from this duty, nor allowed to find substitutes. Old age, corporeal infirmities, and administrative employments are the only exemptions, all citizens, from the age of 20 to 30, are to serve in the first conscript for the present year."

The execution of these regulations is to be hastened as much as possible.

Letters from Luxemburg state, that orders have been sent thither, for transporting from the arsenal of that fortress all the heavy artillery fit for service, which is to be sent across the Rhine.

The *Moniteur* of the 17th instant, mentions a decree of the directory, ordering all commanding officers, without the territories of the republic to send away from every cantonment and camp all women who are useless to the armies. Such women are deemed useless who are not employed in washing, or in selling provisions and liquor.

Letters from Milan, of the 3d instant, mention, that the Russians had been repulsed in repeated attacks made on the principal forts in the island of Corfu, which is said to rival Toulon in strength. The French are making great exertions to take that island.

On the 16th the directory sent a message to the two councils as follows:

"The Ottoman Porte, informed that the expedition to Egypt was only directed against its real enemies, had begun to look upon it with a favourable eye; but it was soon led astray by the perfidious insinuations of Britain and the coalited powers. The war which it has declared against its ancient and faithful allies, has been the fruit of this error, and will lead to its total ruin. It has drawn the Barbary powers into a war with France.

"The French government has adopted measures of reprisal, and it gives you notice of having done so."

It is reported that the king of Prussia has consented to allow the Russian troops a free passage through his dominions.

Letters from Madrid, of the 8th instant, state, that, according to the general opinion of the best informed people, the expedition of the French against Portugal will not take place.

The court of Madrid has not refused the passage of the republican army, as stated by some of the papers; but certain arrangements have been made between that and the cabinet of Luxemburg, which will have the same effect. The letters of which we speak say, that the court of Madrid has thought of that passage as dangerous to Spain, because of the money to be given to the French government, and to which the court of Lisbon is to contribute in proportion.

Some may have concluded from the late news, that during the early part of last week we have more than usually tempestuous. The following is an

extract of a letter from on board the *Cambrian* frigate: "On Wednesday last, the 26th, we encountered a most tremendous gale in the channel, with thunder and lightning. A fire ball fell upon the forecabin, which unfortunately killed two men and wounded 17. Two are struck blind, one of them is saving mad. The scene was so awful that we all expected immediate destruction."

March 3.

We have still to notice the non arrival of the Hamburg mails, fourteen of which are this day due. The length of time that has elapsed since the thaw, and the number of days during which the wind, though adverse, has been moderate, begins to render this interruption of our communication with the continent unaccountable, and when added to several other circumstances, somewhat alarming.

By a broken series of Paris papers which arrived in the early part of the week, it appears that, on the 11th ult. citizen Mararagon, the French minister at Hamburg, declared to the senate that his public functions in their city had ceased. Such intimations when given by the agents of the haughty French directory have seldom failed to be followed by hostilities. It would not then be very surprizing, if the French recollecting the benefits they derived from the *strot* in Holland, which chained the Dutch shipping to their ports, should have availed themselves of a like favourable occasion to seize upon Hamburg, and the immense mass of merchandise that lay weather-bound within its walls.

The north eastern province of Holland, Groningen and Friezeland, which are adjacent, not to say contiguous, to Hamburg, would afford them the means of striking with promptitude a blow as favourable to their schemes of plunder, as it would be ruinous to that object of their inveterate enemy the British commerce—a blow that would be felt throughout this whole island; and that would produce particular distress and consternation in this great trading city.

That such an event is not altogether out of the contemplation of government, seems to be strongly implied by the orders given to detain the packet at Yarmouth, till there shall be some arrival from the continent.

It has long been matter of surprize to many, that so tempting a bait to republican rapacity as Hamburg, should so long have escaped their fangs; and indeed their abstinence is not to be easily accounted for, unless we suppose that they wanted a pretence, or the consent of the cabinet of Berlin.—We have seen too much of their address in negotiation; and too much of the vigor of their councils and their arms, to be able to say that they may not have obtained the acquiescence of the king of Prussia, or have disdained to ask it; and as to a pretence, they certainly have found one in the obstinate detention of Irishmen bearing commissions in the service of the republic.

At the time that the senate of Hamburg first consented, to the British minister, to take that bold, and, we believe unprecedented step, malcontents were not wanting to blame our administration for furnishing a new plea for French rapine, and for impelling another party state to its ruin. But after all, could the invasion of Hamburg—could any loss of trade be expected to countervail the pleasure of hanging three or four United Irishmen? While we make these observations, we ardently desire that a shift of wind; or a total clearance of the ice will prove them vain—that packets may arrive well stored with money to replenish the purses of our merchants, and with intelligence to fill the columns of our print.

March 4.

Sunday morning arrived at Dover a cartel from Gravelines, with prisoners; but no French papers were suffered to be put on board. The cartel failed again in the evening for France.

By the prisoners who came over in the cartel, some of whom are officers, who had read the Paris papers in France, we learn, that it was generally understood that a renewal of the war with the emperor was decided.

In consequence, the directory had ordered a new military conscription of three hundred thousand men to be levied for attacking Germany, and it is said that every man of the age between 20 and 30 is to be sent to the armies, except those whose situations afford them particular protection. This new levy was partly attended to by the army of the Rhine, while a reinforcement was also intended to be sent on the frontier, and a large body of troops to Brest.

Such is the news brought over by the passengers in the cartel. There is undoubtedly some inaccuracy in stating the number of the new requisition. For the preceding military conscription of 200,000 men went to effect in its operation, persons upwards of 20 years old, and it is possible that the measure was not carried into effect in a great number of departments. While, on every occasion the detachment of new conscripts was completed by desertions on their way to join the armies.

It can hardly be supposed that the directory would, under such circumstances, have recourse to the expedient of raising 300,000 men more, on a plan similar to that which had both failed and excited a great degree of discontent in different parts of France. We are therefore inclined to think, that the original number of 200,000 which was to have been raised by the first military conscription, has been merely extended to that of 300,000.

It is also reported that the directory has laid a very heavy tax upon personal property, to be paid by early instalments.

A mail from Lisbon arrived on Monday, brought to Falmouth by the Prince of Wales packet, after a passage of four days. The communication is of a very uninteresting nature.

## DUBLIN, February 28.

Extract of a letter from an officer at Galway, dated 23d February.

"I am sorry to tell you that the state of this country is as bad as possible, notwithstanding what was said the other night in the house, by some well informed gentlemen. The loss in this country alone by houghling is computed to have amounted in the last three weeks to upwards of sixty thousand pounds. We have, at present, upwards of eighty prisoners in gaol for that crime, and a court-martial will commence to-morrow for their trial.—As much as possible of the beef and mutton destroyed in this way is beyond doubt carried off, and salted up as store for the rebel army when it shall rise; and by threatening letters many persons have been obliged to deposit in different places considerable sums in guineas for carrying on the war. In short, I think we shall soon have another brush."

## BOSTON, April 15.

The arrival yesterday, from Nevis, brings a report, current at that place, that four Spanish frigates had arrived and taken possession of Surinam, in behalf of the Batavian republic, without meeting with any resistance.

Letters from the brig *Hope*, captain John Prince, dated at St. Domingo, Feb. 7, state, that he was taken by a French brig bound to France, and sent into St. Domingo, where it was probable he would be condemned in a few days; the vessel which took the *Hope* shewed 10 guns, but two of which were real; she was laden with mahogany, from St. Domingo, bound to France.

## NEW-YORK, April 17.

Yesterday afternoon arrived here from Portsmouth (Eng.) the ship *Fair American*. She left Portsmouth on the 4th of March. We are informed by a gentleman passenger, that the day before they left Portsmouth, 200 sail of British ships of war and transports, with troops and warlike stores on board, sailed from Spithead for Portugal.

The *Fair American* sailed with a fleet for the West-Indies, in company with the ships *Sally* and *Connecticut*, of Philadelphia, and the *Fox*, for Charleston.

April 18.

## MORE WAR.

Extract of a letter from Alicant, to a respectable house in Boston, dated January 7, 1799.

"The Algerines have become very numerous in these seas, and are very strict since their declaration of war against the French, which took place on the 21st December, when the French consul, the merchants, and all French people of every description in Algiers, were put into chains, and are kept at work as captives. On Christmas day six Algerine corsairs sailed, with orders from the dey to capture all French vessels they met, and he has sent a party to surprise a factory the French have established on the coast for the coral fishery, and bring them all in chains to Algiers. All this is in consequence of the grand seignior's request, made by his ambassador arrived at Algiers 20th December. The Tunisians also, in obedience to the grand seignior's desire, have engaged to aid with the Algerines; and the dey has sent to the government of Tunis to have all the French secured to that place, which at present are about 950; they will all be made slaves, and it is believed that the Tunisians will also declare war against the French, and that Morocco will follow their example. This news has just arrived by express two days from Algiers, sent by consul O'Brien to consul Montgomery."

April 19.

The ship *Chesapeake*, belonging to Melles, James and Samuel Watson, arrived at Dover (England) from this port, in about 3 weeks.

A letter from Demara to a gentleman in this city, dated March 23, mentions, that four large frigates, with 8000 troops, had arrived at Surinam on the 14th of February. It was not known whether they were French or Dutch.