

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1799.

MINDEN, June 28.

Two deputies, one of them the de-
viant count Bentinck, have come to
this city, at the desire of his Prussian
majesty, to make propositions in the
name of the legislative body of the
Batavian Directory. The king has
sent his minister, count Haugwitz, with whom the
deputies have held conferences for three days.—They
have offered to take into pay 25,000 Prussians, and to
pay a subsidy besides. The king of Prussia consented
to furnish the 25,000 men, but demands as a prelimi-
nary the re-establishment of the stadholder. The
deputies, it will be easily conceived, had not sufficient
powers to consent to such extraordinary conditions;
they were, besides, of opinion, that this re-establish-
ment could only be the result of an eventual negotia-
tion with the coaliced powers. The conferences were
then broken off: the Batavian deputies considering
afterwards that his Prussian majesty appeared to fear
equally a rupture with the Imperial courts and with
France, thought that they could not succeed in their
mission, and therefore returned.

P A V I A, June 11.

It was yesterday reported, for almost a certainty,
that the citadel of Turin had surrendered. Our head
quarters, which were formerly at Turin, are gone to
Asti, to advance with all forces possible against Moreau.
A battle must take place—and may it crown with suc-
cess the Imperial arms!

June 12.

General Moreau is now with his army near Genoa,
strongly intrenched; it is, however, expected that
general Bellegarde, who is receiving considerable re-
inforcements every day, will storm the enemy's in-
trenchments near Acqui.

B E R N, June 13.

An official report from the Helvetic commissioner
of government has been received here, stating, that
the French have entirely evacuated the canton of Uri,
where there are but a few Austrians. The valley is
as desolate as if the plague had raged there; no far-
mer, no cattle, no provisions; and the ruined cottages
are quite deserted. Mount St. Gothard exhibits a
dreadful sight, with its stupendous rocks, being every
where besmeared with blood, and strewed with
corpses.

L O N D O N, July 7.

On board his majesty's ship *Cambrian*,
off Havre-de-Grace, July 5.

I have only a moment to write you, that we have
been informed by two spies, just received on board,
that the French fleet have been defeated by our gal-
lant tars, 15 sail taken, and 5 sunk.

July 8.

Our Plymouth letter mentions the arrival of the
John cartel of that port from Morlaix, the captain of
which says, that though not suffered to land, he had
learnt from the guard put upon the vessel, that a ru-
mour prevailed there of the French and British fleets
having had an engagement in the Mediterranean, in
which the former was victorious. Our readers will
at once see that this must be the same report that was
mentioned in the last Paris papers, which stated that
the French had taken six of our ships—an event so
improbable, that we took no other notice of the
news than merely giving it a place among our ex-
tracts.

The circumstance of captain Singleton not having
been allowed to land with his prisoners, is very un-
usual, and we may therefore conclude that something
of moment has happened, of which the French wish
to keep this country ignorant as long as they can. If
an action has actually taken place between the fleets,
there is more reason to conclude it has been disastrous
to the enemy than to us; for if they had been the
victors, they would have been glad of an opportunity
to boast of the advantage.

From a gentleman on board the *Cambrian*, now off
Havre-de-Grace, we have this day received a letter,
dated so late as Friday last, forwarded to us from
Portsmouth; it looks as if an action had really taken
place, but with a very different result from that stated
in the French papers. By two spies received on board
the same day, the *Cambrian* was informed, that in an
engagement between the two fleets the French had
been defeated, fifteen of their ships taken and five
sunk. We regret that the hurry in which our corre-
spondent wrote prevented his giving either the time or
other circumstances connected with the action; but
should the news prove true, we may expect that mi-
nisters will soon have it in their power to lay the par-
ticulars before the public.

In the Council of Five Hundred, on the 14th,
Jordan, in the name of the committee of eleven,
proposed that a strict execution of the existing laws
should augment the armies to 500,000 men; proposed
an amnesty to deserters returning to their corps; and

death as the penalty of future desertion;—and on the
26th, from the same committee, proposed a loan of 100
millions to be raised on the richer classes, who are to
be reimbursed by the sale of national domains. The
plan was adopted, and the committee dissolved.—In
the sitting of the 30th, Coustou stated the royalists to
be in considerable force in the department of the
mouth of the Rhone, and had besieged a small place
about two leagues from Marseilles.

Notwithstanding the contents of the Hamburg
mail, we are inclined to think it possible that the in-
telligence in the Vienna Gazette, respecting the junc-
tion of Moreau and Macdonald, is incorrect, as ac-
counts have been this day received by ministers, from
colonel Crawford, which we are informed, state that
Suwarrow has beaten the French army, and prevented
the intended junction.

It is asserted, that "lord St. Vincent has resigned
the command of the Mediterranean fleet in consequence
of indisposition."

P L Y M O U T H, July 6.

Yesterday arrived the John cartel, of this port, cap-
tain J. Singleton, from Morlaix, which he left on the
4th instant, in the evening. It was pretty generally
reported there, that the French and British fleets in
the Mediterranean had had an action, in which the
British were said to have been defeated; but we sin-
cerely hope the reverse may prove to be the fact.
Captain S. has been many times to Morlaix, and until
this voyage had always been permitted to land, at-
tended by a guard; but his vessel had now a double
guard put on board her, and no person was permitted
to quit her, except the prisoners that were from hence.
The guard informed captain S. that the news of the
British defeat had been received two days before his
arrival, or on Monday last, as he arrived the Wednes-
day following.

P O R T S M O U T H, August 31.

Captain Charles Blunt of the *Diana*, arrived here
on Wednesday last, in 24 days from Trinidad. He in-
forms that two days after he left Trinidad he was taken
by a French privateer letter of marque from St. Tho-
mas's bound to Guadaloupe, who took out the mate
and one seaman; captain Blunt and four others feign-
ing themselves sick were left on board, in care of a
prize master and four stout hands; who were ordered
to proceed for St. Eustatia, and sell the prize, remit-
ting the net proceeds to Guadaloupe. But captain
Blunt having preconceived the scheme of recapture,
came upon deck on the morning of the 7th of August,
and seizing on a cutlass, at the same moment seized a
musket, they began to try the fortune of war. A
blow from the butt end of the musket settled Mr.
Helmsman pretty quick; but rising again, capt. Blunt
aimed a second stroke with the cutlass and quieted his
bowels.

The prize master coming aft to help his man, was
obliged to surrender also; and by the assistance of the
rest of the crew and a passenger, the remainder of the
Frenchmen were secured. Captain Blunt then gave
them his long boat, their chests, some provisions and
water, and set them out on a new cruise to find land.
After they were put into the boat, they told captain
Blunt that he was a damned brave fellow, thanked
him for his humanity, and wished him safe to port.
Capt. B. then made the best of his way for port, and
every true American bids welcome to the naval hero.
His gallant conduct merits a good ship.

Honourable anecdote of captain Blunt.

The French gang whom captain Blunt so gallantly
conquered, had a large quantity of Johannes with
them, the spoils of many an honest fellow. It was
mentioned by some that captain Blunt should seize
enough of this ill gotten gain to pay for his long boat.
No, says the manly seaman, it is none of my business
how they came by their gold. It appears to be theirs
and I will not touch a farthing.—French pirates pipe
all hands upon deck and belay the main sheet of plun-
der with such a stopper.

B O S T O N, August 31.

The following are the official letters from the army
of Italy, communicated to the council, by the direc-
tory, as announced in the last Centinel.

MACDONALD, general in chief of the army of Naples,
to Moreau, general in chief of the army of Italy.

Head quarters, Formigini, June 12.

"You have doubtless been informed, citizen gen-
eral, that after the taking of Porto Ferrajo, we pro-
ceeded to Longona, to form the attack of that place.
Some disembarked Neapolitan troops, joined to a
general insurrection in the island of Elba, obliged the
chief of battalion, Montferat, to fall back upon
Porto Ferrajo. From being the besieger he soon be-
came the besieged, and was at the last extremity,
when he adopted the bold and masterly resolution of
falling out during the night, upon the enemy. By
frequent attacks he had lost a great number of men,
and the number of his troops was reduced to 5 or 600.

With this handful of brave men he attacked the ene-
my, put them to flight, took their camp and amuni-
tion, 12 pieces of besieging artillery, and three or four
mortars. He returned to the town and has not since
been attacked. I have sent some light reinforcements
to him.

"General Miolis has asked the rank of chief of bri-
gade for citizen Montferat, and I am about to send him
a provisional brevet. He has cited a number of distin-
guished actions performed by that officer.

"Two days ago, general Oliver fell in with the
Austrian general at Saint Venzio. He charged him
along the whole of the road about a mile from Mode-
na. He killed and wounded a considerable number
of the enemy, and took 100 prisoners. I recon-
noitred the enemy this morning, and they make feints
as if they would defend themselves before Modena.
Salm has arrived at Fassana, and detached parties to
Rubiera and Canigiana. Dombrowski informs me that
he takes a position about 8 miles from Reggio. I have
received no accounts from generals Rufca and Montri-
chard; but they ought to arrive this day before Mo-
dena.

"The troops are this moment put in motion for the
attack.

Health and fraternity,

"MACDONALD."

Copy of a letter from the head quarters at Modena, on the
13th June, by general Macdonald to general Moreau,
commanding the army of Italy.

"Citizen General,

"The first division of the army of Naples began to
act on the offensive yesterday, in a manner somewhat
brilliant. A corps of the enemy which assembled
under Modena was attacked with vigour and impetu-
osity.—The obstinacy was equal on both sides. The
bayonets were several times crossed, and three or four
charges of cavalry took place; but the victory rested on
our side. The enemy have left about 1500 men killed
and wounded. We have made 2000 prisoners, a-
mong whom are 40 officers of all ranks. We have
taken from 12 to 13 pieces of cannon, their waggons,
their standards, 4 or 500 horses, and a great deal of
baggage. The rout was complete.

"On our part we have lost nearly 200 men killed
and wounded; among the first is the brave general of
brigade Forest, commanding the division of chasseurs.
If the division coming from Bologna had been able to
have forced the passages of Tanaro, which the enemy
hold, few of the troops before Modena would have
escaped. We still pursue them, and the main body
of the army proceeds to Reggio.

"I shall send you a detailed report as soon as all
the particular accounts shall have reached me.

"This letter will be signed by the chief of the
staff. I write to you from my bed. I cannot sign
the letter, having received several wounds in an at-
tack of cavalry. They shall not, however, prevent
me from following the army.

Health and fraternity!

"LEOPOLD BERTHIER."

Letter from general Lapoide to general Perignon, com-
mander of the right wing of the army of Italy.

Head quarters at Bobbio,

June 12.

"General Victor has reached Placentia with his
division, where he attacked the Austrians, who must
doubtless have been in great force, since the combat
lasted 6 hours. He repulsed them with loss, a part of
the enemy threw themselves into the castle, whither
16 pieces of cannon had very lately been conveyed
from Pizzighetone.—The remaining part crossed the
Trebbia, and retreated to the castle of San Giovanni.
On the succeeding day, which was on the 17th, the
Austrians attacked him, but were repulsed.

"I am assured that the whole army of Naples has
arrived at Placentia; so that we are now masters of the
most important passages of the Po.

"I entered Bobbio about a week ago, the enemy
having retreated on our arrival, I have sent a strong
detachment to St. Sebastian, where there should be
about sixty Austrians, who were ordered to fall back
on Bobbio, but were prevented from doing so by the
rapidity of our march. At this moment their retreat
must be cut off.

"P. M.—In a letter of the 18th, from the head
quarters of Tortona, general Desfeldt, acquaints gen-
eral Perignon; with his entrance into Tortona without
firing a shot. The result of all this intelligence is,
that the army forming a combined mass of 50,000
men, after having occupied the best positions, is ad-
vancing towards the enemy.

N E W P O R T, August 27.

Captain Topham, of the schooner *Cuziah*, arrived
here yesterday, in 15 days from Cape Francois, cap-
tain Topham learnt the day before he sailed, that a
conspiracy had been discovered at the Cape, the ob-
ject of which was to sacrifice the party of gen. Touss-