

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 1801.

BOSTON, June 15.

LATEST AND IMPORTANT NEWS,

Received by the arrival of the *Washington*, from Liverpool.

LONDON, April 30.

WE have the satisfaction and happiness to announce that, according to private advices received this morning from Paris, the whole of Egypt is in our possession.

This account was brought by major Keir, who landed at Dover last night from Calais.

By the over land dispatch which arrived at the East-India house, intelligence was received of rear-admiral Blanket's having sailed from Bombay on the 28th December, with a part of his Squadron, and the troops from Bombay destined to act in Egypt. The rest of the force was assembled at Trincomalee, under the command of gen. Baird, and was expected to sail in January. The whole, it was hoped, would land in Suez before the end of February.

The arrival of the two Hamburg mails yesterday, must be considered matter for great congratulation, as the intelligence brought to government was highly satisfactory. The circumstance of the courts of Berlin and Copenhagen having determined to re-open the navigation of the three great rivers which empty themselves into the Northern Sea, was very justly considered of such importance, as to be immediately made the subject of a letter from lord Hawkesbury to the lord mayor.

"Downing-street, April 29.

"My Lord,

I have great satisfaction in informing, you that by letters received this day from lord Carysfort and Sir James Crauford, it appears that the courts of Berlin and Copenhagen have determined to re-open the rivers of the north of Germany, and that all vessels whatever will be allowed to navigate those rivers without molestation.

I beg your lordship will have the goodness to make this intelligence as public as possible in the city.

"I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

"HAWKESBURY.

"To the right honourable the lord mayor."

IMPORTANT to AMERICA.

Sir William Scott yesterday brought forward a motion, in the house of commons, for the better regulation of his majesty's prize courts in the West-Indies, &c. which after some considerable conversation in favour of it, and being seconded by the chancellor of the exchequer, was accepted and leave given to bring in a bill. Mr. Scott observed, that it was of the highest importance, to the interest and character of Great-Britain, that some alteration should take place in the nature of the jurisdictions, and that instead of the numerous courts now existing, there should be but three, one in Jamaica, one in Martinique, and one at Halifax; and that the judges instead of depending on the quantity of business for their profits, should be placed, by liberal salaries, together with the registers and other officers, beyond the reach of corruption. In proof of the iniquitous conduct practised in these islands, it was remarked, that out of 318 cases, not above 35 had been confirmed by the court of appeals in England. Mr. Nichols suggested the necessity of providing, that no one who had not taken a degree in our courts of civil law, or been admitted to the bar in the English courts, shall preside in those courts.

We flatter ourselves that the measures of the emperor of Russia will prevent the effusion of blood in the Baltic, and speedily re-establish us in our former situation there, with respect to commerce and navigation. We regret, however, that it is not yet in our power to announce the removal of the embargo. As we have already stated, this measure being in its nature reciprocal, it was naturally to be expected that they would wait in Russia for news from England on this point.

We believe it is now settled that lord Whitworth shall go as ambassador to St. Petersburg, and that lord St. Helens, shall be plenipotentiary, at Paris, in the event of a right understanding between our ministers and the chief consul of France respecting the grounds of a negotiation.

Private accounts from Paris state, that the utmost discontent prevailed there at the conduct of rear-admiral Gantheaume, in consequence of his not having persisted in his attempt to go to Egypt. Upon the intelligence being received of his having put into Toulon, Bonaparte sent of a courier immediately ordering him to put to sea the moment he received these orders. Gantheaume did not obey till some days afterwards (the 19th ult.) alleging the bad condition of his ships, and the damage they had sustained in the voyage from Brest; and request an examination into the conduct. It was reported at Paris, when the account was brought, that Gantheaume

had returned to Toulon, which he did two or three days after his sailing, that the chief consul had immediately superseded him by the appointment of admiral Bruix to the command. Sir John Warren had sailed from Naples on the 19th, the day Gantheaume left Toulon, and was cruising for him off Sardinia.

Falmouth, April 26.

Sir Hyde Parker, we can now confidently state, has been recalled from the command of the Baltic fleet, and lord Nelson has been appointed to the chief command. His lordship had, we believe, entertained a wish to return to England; and accounts from Copenhagen, received yesterday, state, that he had requested passports from the court of Denmark for Hamburg, but we presume the new arrangement which has been made will change his lordship's destination. The *St. George* of 98 guns, his lordship's flag ship, was the only line of battle ship remaining off Copenhagen, after the departure of Sir Hyde Parker for the Baltic, which took place on the evening of the 16th. Many circumstances have come to our knowledge respecting the conduct of the Baltic fleet which we deem too delicate to be publicly stated at present.

Particulars of the unnatural death of the emperor Paul.

Altona, April 21.

In consequence of the last arrival of letters from Russia, which are no longer opened, it is asserted that the late emperor Paul I. died an unnatural death.

The circumstances are variously related, but the following is the account most generally credited.

A few days before his death, Paul I. sent to his senate two ukases, desiring them to pass and insert them in the code of laws. The object of those decrees was, to banish the now empress dowager and her children to Siberia; with the exception of the grand duke Constantine Paulowitch, the emperor's favourite. Decrees so barbarous and unnatural, revolted the feelings of the senate to such a degree, that it was resolved unanimously to declare the emperor *non compos mentis*—to compel him to abdicate the throne, and to keep him in safe custody in some fortress the remainder of his life. At the same time it was agreed upon to proclaim his eldest son Alexander I. as his successor, making him sign previously the ukases which have since appeared, and exacting a promise that he should govern the empire according to the spirit of the laws enacted by his grand-mother, Catharine the great.

Paul appeared as usual in the senate, in expectation of finding the ratification of his mandates; but instead of that, the act of abdication was proposed to him for his signature. Inflamed with rage, he loaded the senate with execrations, was going to attack some of the members with savage ferocity, when he was forcibly restrained, and suffocated in the scuffle. Some reports say, that one of the senators during the struggle, came behind him and strangled him with a cord.

Alexander, the new emperor was immediately called, and acquainted with the cause of his father's death, and his cruel decrees against himself, mother and family. After some hesitation Alexander signed the instruments and writings laid before him, and was proclaimed—*emperor of all the Russias*.

In corroboration of the articles of news under the London head, respecting Egypt, a letter received here from Liverpool, by the *Washington*, of date of May 2, observes, "that official accounts of the entire defeat of the French in Egypt, have been received in London." This letter also mentions the decline in prices of all kinds of grain and provisions.

The London paper of the 30th April, from which we have copied the principle articles of foreign news in this days gazette, contains several statements of the death of the late emperor of Russia; they all agree in opinion, that he died an unnatural death, but differ as to the manner in which he came to it. The Altona account (see foreign head) appears to us the most probable; although the following is entitled to credit, from the source through which it came to us.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Europe, to his friend in this place, dated April 23.

"You will have heard, before this letter reaches you, of the death of the emperor Paul. The sentiments which this event excited at first, were those of joy and gladness. Europe rejoiced to see his days numbered, who had acquired so powerful and pernicious an influence in its affairs; perhaps the death of no individual was ever so little lamented, as that of this man; people began to be reconciled to apoplexies. But when the real manner of his death was known,

and its bloody details, his character and his vices were forgotten, and every feeling heart and virtuous mind were moved by the turpitude and atrocity of the deed. It seems, the first project of the conspirators was to force him to sign an act of abdication, and to confine him in some fortress for life; to this his sons, Alexander the present emperor, and Constantine, were privy. The number of his assassins was about ten; the principal officers of his guard were gained, and all the sentinels, except the one placed at the door of the apartment where he slept, who was likewise murdered. After some hesitation he signed the act of abdication; the conspirators then retired and held a consultation; after which, Suboffe, the principal, returned to the chamber of the emperor, who, seeing him alone, flew upon him, and endeavoured to disarm him: the noise of this scuffle drew the rest into the room, and then the bloody scene began, which is said to have lasted one hour and a quarter. I shall send you further particulars of this event in my next."

The London paper mentioned above, in one of its statements of this transaction, nearly agrees with the preceding account.

CONCORD, (N. H.) June 4.

A very remarkable effect of lightning happened at Sandbornton, on Friday the 20th ult. about sunset, near the houses of Thaddeus Gage and Jeremiah French. The bolt fell on a pine tree about 100 feet high, and about two feet diameter, splitting it into shivers, and scattering them over about four acres of land; and then from the root of the tree it took its course in five directions—one of which was on a log fence standing near the root of the tree, which it followed about 7 rods, laying it flat to the ground, shivering many of the logs into pieces, and setting the stuff on fire—the other four branches took to the ground from the stump of the tree, and continued about 5 rods, digging furrows in the earth in some places nearly 18 inches deep, turning out rocks, one to the weight of 4 or 5 hundred, and laying it 8 or 10 feet from the furrow; the furrows were as crooked in the earth as lightning in the cloud. No damage was done, excepting two boys were knocked down at Mr. Gage's door, about 25 rods from the tree—the boys were not much hurt; several squares of glass were broken in Mr. Gage's windows, and many things thrown down in the house. Mr. French's house stood within about 12 rods of the tree; it had one door knocked in, but the people in the house were not hurt.

LEOMINSTER, (Mass.) June 4.

The thunder-storm, on Friday last, doubtless yet no one has forgotten. Never was the artillery of Heaven displayed in more majesty and power.

In THIS PLACE,

A tree about 40 rods N. E. from the meeting-house was struck by the lightning; also a house in the S. W. part of the town in one room of which were two men and a dog; the dog was killed, and one of the men we understand, was injured in his feet and legs.

In ASHBURNHAM,

A barn 70 feet long, the property of one Mr. Holbrook was blown down. A boy and some cows were in it the instant it was made a heap of ruin. One cow was killed, but the boy escaped unhurt, and was the first to give notice of the accident to the family.

In FITZWILLIAM,

The scene was still more melancholy. A girl by the name of Betsey Clarke, about 16 years of age, was with her brother in a barn feeding calves with milk. She had litten down on a fill of the barn, the lightning struck the barn, ran down a post, and passed to her head; the effects were terrible—the girl was instantly killed, a blanket thrown over her, had a hole struck through it and took fire; her cloaths and the barn, were lighted in a flame. It is reported, although it is hardly credible, that the head of this unfortunate victim was considerably torn by the lightning. This is certainly a very uncommon thing, and never to be expected, considering that animal matter is such a powerful conductor of the electric fluid.

In NEWMARLBORO,

And the towns adjacent, there was a heavy fall of hail; some of the stones were said to have been one and a half inches in diameter.

STONINGTON-PORT, June 9.

Extract of a letter from captain Henry Fanning, dated South Georgia, February 5th, 1801, to his parents in this port.

"I have the pleasure to inform you, that we are about to leave the most desolate country ever formed by Nature—the island itself is nothing, but a mountainous rock, covered with everlasting snow and ice,