

From GUADALOUPE.

Captain Lord, who arrived here last week, in 33 days from Point-Petre informs, that four days previous to his leaving that port, an American vessel arrived there, which had spoken, off Desada, five English line of battle ships, direct from Europe, bound to St. Domingo, to act in concert with the French, in dispossessing Toussaint of the government of the island. Captain Lord also mentions, that although tranquillity was in some degree restored, yet the whites were fearful of further trouble, and many of them kept their trunks, papers, &c. on board the American shipping, ready for a start, in case it should be necessary.

PHILADELPHIA, January 8.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

NEW-YORK, January 7.

"This moment the ship Atlantic, Ross, of your port, arrived here in 57 days from Bristol. Mr. Dawson, with English and French dispatches for government, came passenger. There is no news of importance. The French expedition for the West-Indies had not failed—nor had Mr. Livingston arrived. Long debates in the British parliament on the peace—some of which you will have tomorrow."

January 11.

In the night of the 3d of October, the day on which the preliminaries of peace with England were published, a very remarkable conjunction was observed of the planets Saturn, Jupiter, Venus, and the Moon, near that beautiful star Regulus. The celebrated astronomer Messier gave an account of this interesting phenomenon in the sitting of the National Institute on the 28th. [Lon. pap.]

January 12.

COMMERCIALLY IMPORTANT.

A letter from the Havana to a respectable house in New-York, received by the Thetis, states, that the port of Havana is shut against American vessels bringing any thing but slaves and sugar-boilers."

On the 17th inst. in the house of representatives of the United States, a bill was reported for the protection of American commerce and seamen in the Mediterranean, empowering the president fully to equip and employ such vessels of the United States, as he may deem requisite; that they be authorized to capture Tripolitan vessels; and that the president be authorized to commission private vessels for the same purpose.

BALTIMORE, January 12.

The celebrated general Moreau, accompanied by an interpreter, arrived in London on the 3d of November.

The brig Almyra, arrived yesterday from Martinique, brought dispatches for the president of the United States. From the circumstance of one of the sealed packets having on it a direction to the post-master to forward immediately by express, we presume its contents are of importance.

January 14.

The debate on the appointment of the representation was finally decided on the 6th inst. in the house of representatives of the United States. The yeas and nays being insisted on, there appeared for the ratio of 33,000, on the passing of the bill, 85, against it, 4—the yeas were J. Davenport, T. Morris, G. K. Van Ranseleer, and B. Walker.

The Indian chief, Little Turtle, and others, were on the floor of congress on Thursday last. Objects very interesting to them are in contemplation.

The legislature of Delaware is now in session, and the question of the validity of the late election for governor in that state is before a committee of both houses.

Lord Whitworth is appointed ambassador to France. His lordship will repair to Paris immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty.

January 15.

An English paper says, "it was in agitation in the consul's cabinet at Paris, to send general Rochambeau to Amiens, to meet marquis Cornwallis, these statesmen having had a previous acquaintance in the negotiations at York-town, Virginia."

The crop of wine in France has been very bad. By a letter from Bourdeaux we are informed, that an owner of vineyards, who was in the habit of making annually two hundred tuns of wine, has only made eight this year, and the failure is general.

[London paper.]

RUMOUR

States this morning that commodore Dale has been captured by a number of Tripolitan galleys, who boarded him in a calm, as he lay off their port. This account comes by the Norfolk packet, arrived this morning, the passengers in which received it from a vessel which went into Hampton Road as they came out. A circumstance so improbable should have confirmation strong, before credit be placed in it.

Annapolis, January 21.

To the honourable HENRY HOLLINGSWORTH, a member of the newly-elected senate of Maryland.

SIR,

AS the session of the general assembly is now at an end, I feel myself at liberty to remark with freedom upon your publication of the 24th ult. in the Maryland Gazette.

It is admitted that I read in the public market-place, the following resolve of congress, dated 20th July, 1780:

Resolved, That Henry Hollingsworth, deputy quarter-master-general, be and hereby is suspended, and that some other person be appointed to transact the business of that department.

Resolved, That the deposition of Robert Anderson, respecting the supposed forgery of his name to a receipt offered as a voucher in support of the accounts of Henry Hollingsworth, be transmitted to the executive authority of the state of Maryland, in order that such proceedings may be had against the person or persons concerned therein, as may be agreeable to the laws of the state, at the expence of the United States.

I did not read the following copy of Mr. Hanson's report:

SIR,

I have perused the papers relative to the case of colonel Henry Hollingsworth, and can find no grounds for instituting a criminal prosecution. The charge against him is for forging and publishing a receipt, with an intent to defraud, or for publishing the receipt knowing it to be forged: there is some evidence in the depositions tending to prove the latter, but not a tittle to justify the former: and as the transaction was in Philadelphia, the courts of this state can have no jurisdiction.

After delivering my opinion of the law, I hope your excellency will not think I have exceeded the line of duty, when I declare, that at the request of colonel Hollingsworth, with whom I have a very slight acquaintance, and not the remotest connexion, I have perused a variety of letters, certificates and accounts: the result of the inquiry is, that I consider him as a man, who, for a considerable length of time, has been harassed by a species of persecution, grounded on an accusation, of which an impartial examination could not fail to acquit him.

I have the honour to be,

Your excellency's most obt. servant,
A. C. HANSON.

His excellency THOS. SIM LEE, Esq;
Governor of Maryland.

Annapolis, Dec. 19, 1780.

I did not read the resolve of congress of the 21st of November, 1782:

Resolved, That congress are satisfied with the report of the honourable Alexander Contee Hanson, Esq; one of the judges of the general court of the state of Maryland, on the case of Henry Hollingsworth, referred to him by the executive of the said state, in pursuance of the act of congress, of the 20th July, 1780: and that the complaint against the said H. Hollingsworth be dismissed.

I do not recollect to have ever seen either Mr. Hanson's report or the last resolve of congress, until the meeting at Annapolis, although I had frequently heard them spoken of, but always in such a manner as to convince me that they had in no degree done away the impression on the public mind, that you were guilty of publishing the receipt knowing it to be forged. Let us examine how far they exculpate you. Mr. Hanson indeed requits you of the forgery but admits there was some evidence to prove you guilty of the publication knowing it to be forged, and on the perusal at your request, of a variety of letters, certificates and accounts, seems to think that on an impartial examination you could not fail of being acquitted. But what is the language of congress? very different indeed. They are satisfied with Mr. Hanson's report; not by any means convinced of your innocence. Will it be believed that the report, with your assiduous and sycophantic attentions, could have been near two years upon the tables of congress, had there been no hesitation on the propriety of assenting to it?

If they had considered you as a man injured by the infamy with which their journals had branded you, ought they not, would they not have hastened to do you justice by a stronger expression of your innocence, or obliterating for ever, every trace of your crime? Would they for near two long years have hung you up to be stung by the envenomed tongue of malice, and pointed at by the finger of scorn? In fine, it is evident to every intelligent reader that you escaped the punishment annexed to one of the most infamous offences in society, from a defect in our judicial and political systems. The offence was committed in Philadelphia; you were a citizen of Maryland; our laws had no jurisdiction of offences committed in Pennsylvania, nor did there exist any provision by which you could be remanded to the place where the offence was committed. Congress had no cognizance of any such offence—they had no power either to try or punish you, and this, with your unceasing importunity, will account for the final dismissal of the complaint—Would any man but yourself have been content with such a discharge? To conscious rectitude and indignant virtue, the path to be pursued was plainly pointed out: go to Philadelphia; wave every exception to the jurisdiction of the court; insist on a public trial and rest on your innocence for an honourable acquittal. But that was not the path for you to pursue; your best friends at the time suspected you could not tread in it with safety, and your subsequent conduct confirmed it. Why did you keep for many years after in your service and treat with particular kindness, the favourite clerk who, as you told your friends, forged the receipt?—did he do it by your command? If yes, you are as criminal as if you had forged it yourself.—If not, as an honest man you should have discharged him in an hour. Take it either way, as respects your guilt, it is not of much consequence, as you knew of the forgery; and I leave it to your "emerging" talents to discriminate between the moral turpitude of

a forgery, and the publication knowing it to be forged.

Another public transaction of nearly equal baseness has since displayed in strong colours, your fitness for public trust—whilst in the quarter-master's department, considerable sums of money were from time to time advanced you on account; when your accounts were in the course of settlement, there appeared against you upon the public books a charge of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, equal, by the scale of depreciation, to about ten thousand pounds specie—The draft on which you had received this money was produced by the accounting officers, without a receipt upon it; you immediately denied the receipt of the money; you for several days attended the office, and obstinately disputed the point; you insisted that "your books were right," that "they never erred," that "so large a sum could not have escaped your recollection," that "it must have checked itself." After a diligent search by the officers, the receipt, which had been taken on a separate piece of paper, and by some means mislaid, was found; it was fortunately in your own hand writing, and corresponded precisely with the entry in the public books. This discovery of the receipt was concealed from you for several days, during which the officers enjoyed a very ludicrous farce at your expence, as you regularly attended and became more obstinate in disputing the point. At length the fatal receipt is produced; the culprit stands arrayed in confusion, shame and guilt!!! but, Proteus like, soon changes, and very honestly gets clear of the embarrassment by observing, that "he would not deny his own hand writing," that "the omission must have proceeded from the negligence of one of his clerks;" although the instant before "it was impossible he should be mistaken," "his books never erred," "the sum was too large for him to forget," it must have checked itself.—Mark gentle reader! The colonel, as the receipt in his own hand writing proved, had received the money himself; and was still attended by his favourite clerk through the whole of this transaction, which took place many years after his suspension.

In your narrative of my conduct at Annapolis, considerable stress seems to be laid upon my reading the resolve of congress in the public market. It is perhaps necessary to explain the reason of it. I went to the market upon private business of consequence; my attention was soon arrested by the collection of a crowd, in which mixing, I discovered two gentlemen engaged in a political conversation, in which I was insensibly led to take a part. One of them, at present a member of the executive council of the state, justified the conduct of the council in the late change of officers, &c. which they have made, and grounded his vindication on the recommendation of the members of the legislature, who from the confidence with which the people had entrusted them, it might be presumed, could best judge who were the properest characters to be removed, and who to be appointed. When it is known and recollected that I had been dismissed but a few days before from office, and no doubt by the intrigues of yourself and colleagues from the county, it will not be believed that I should very readily acquiesce in the position that you were the best judges of my merits in office; of course I denied it; and to prove how far you were qualified to recommend proper characters, thought it necessary to read the resolve of congress, by which you had been so disgracefully suspended, which I happened to have in my pocket.—I did not go to the market with any expectation of using it, but with equal truth and candour declare, that I left my house on Susquehanna, determined to make it as public as possible before my return. Until you were elected a member of the new senate, I do not recollect that on any occasion, but in confidential conversation, I ever spoke of the circumstances, and had not "curst ambition" enticed you to accept an honourable post in our government, it is highly probable that all recollection of them would soon have been effaced.—That they were generally forgotten throughout the state, who doubted when your election was announced? Who otherwise would ever believe that a majority of the electors of the senate would say upon their oaths, that you were one of fifteen of the wisest and most virtuous men in the state. Had you been content to move in private life, obscured by the clouds of former offences, you would never have been noticed; but promotion placed you upon a dangerous pinnacle, and the higher the elevation, the greater the danger. The day you accepted your seat in the senate, you became, in jacobinic language, a servant of the people, and the people, as you know, have for some time past been in the habit of examining the conduct of their upper servants with much freedom. With you jacobins, the scrutiny has not been confined to their public faults; private vice has been the favourite theme; you certainly then have no reason to complain of me, who have left your private vices at Elkton and its neighbourhood, where they are fully known.

To the ingenuous I submit the charge of malevolence. Convinced of colonel Hollingsworth's unfitness for a seat in the senate, I thought it a duty to disclose the facts on which that conviction was founded, that all good men might be warned of our danger, and the better prepared to encounter it. The times are critical and wayward, and demands industrious zeal and perseverance. In these I at least feel no disposition to abate, and shall glory in every opportunity of exposing the deformity of men who are founding their aggrandizement upon the ruins of their country.

P. THOMAS.

Rockland Farm, January 21.