

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1803.

PHILADELPHIA, February 23.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

LAST evening arrived the fine fast sailing ship *Wilmington*, Woodward, in 31 days from Belfast. To the politeness of the owners we are indebted for a file of the latest papers by this vessel, containing London dates to the 18th, and Irish to the 23d of January. Their contents, though not very important, will be found sufficiently interesting to engage attention.

From the following article, it appears that the Spanish government, no doubt instigated by its prime mover, the first consul, has made an hostile advance against the interest of Great-Britain:

"One of the most important articles brought by the papers which have reached us, is the intelligence of a formal notice having been sent to the British establishment in the Bay of Honduras, formed for the purpose of cutting logwood, desiring that they would instantly embark, and quit the Spanish territory, as the treaty whereby Great-Britain claimed such a right has not been renewed. We are not informed whether any official notification of this demand has been made to ministers by the court of Madrid. It is most probable, however, that some points remain to be adjusted between the two courts of serious importance, which retards the nomination of ambassadors, which retards the nomination of ambassadors, and the conclusion of the treaty that has been so long in discussion."

Of this measure subsequent English papers give corroborative evidence: and the style and temper in which it is noticed by the London editors, indicate a lively spirit of indignation and resentment.

The warfare between the Turks and beys continues with unabated fury. The latter had conceived hopes of being aided by the British forces in Egypt. But this is not likely to be the case. This critical situation of affairs, however, will be seized by the British as an argument to induce the grand signior to accede to the proposed alliance between England and Russia for the guaranty of Egypt.

The degradation of Switzerland is completed. The form of constitution, conformably to Buonaparte's wishes, has been adopted by the Helvetic confederation.

Buonaparte, it seems, is going to the Netherlands on a secret expedition. For this a camp of 12,000 men is to be established in the vicinity.

Le Clerc's body, and Madame Le Clerc, arrived at Toulon about the 10th of January. We perceive no publications on this subject from which can be inferred the impressions made on France by this disastrous event.

Some serious disturbances have occurred in the south of Ireland. They are pretty generally attributed to local jealousies, existing among the mechanics and labourers. It was believed the ferment would be allayed without producing much mischief.

A very heavy gale prevailed on the coast of England and Ireland from the 5th to the 10th January, and it was apprehended, had occasioned much damage at sea, and in the out ports.

We refer our readers to the extracts.

From Belfast papers to the 23d of January, received by the ship *Wilmington*, captain Woodward, arrived at this port in 32 days.

LONDON, January 10.

The constitution of Switzerland was presented by the commissaries of the conservative senate to the Helvetic confederation, on the 24th of last month, and discussed and unanimously adopted in one sitting. It is, as was to be expected, conformable to the contents of the first consul's letter to the eighteen cantons.

Nothing, we think, affords a greater proof of the wretched state of subjection to which the Swiss nation is reduced, than the above fact—a people deemed unworthy of framing a constitution for themselves—forced to send their deputies to the capital of a foreign power, to receive a form of government from persons, who must be without those warm affections, those laudable prejudices that bind a man to his native soil—a constitution presented and unanimously adopted in one sitting.

The mind is shocked and afflicted at seeing so respectable a nation reduced to such a state of humiliation and dependence.—That the constitution should have been accepted with such haste and unanimity is to be accounted for only upon the principle that the deputies were well convinced that opposition would be unavailing, and resistance fruitless. Else, is it to be supposed, that they would have not passed upon a form of government presented for their acceptance by a foreign power; a constitution founded upon such principles as those avowed in the letter of Buonaparte?

[*Courier*.]

There is every reason to believe that the Porte will accede to lord Elgin's proposition of a triple alliance between Russia, England and Turkey, to guaranty Egypt from invasion. An article from Constantinople, in the French papers, asserts that England has expressed her willingness, not to give any assistance to the beys, but that she requires the Porte to agree to the proposed alliance. Russia is said to be favourable to the plan, and the Porte of course must accede to it.

The Turkish government has published the last news from Egypt, which was supposed to be very disastrous. The beys had formed the project of cutting their way through the Turkish line, and of penetrating to Alexandria, for the purpose of operating their junction with the English, on whose assistance they relied; they attempted it twice, and failed each time.

We have formerly stated that the emperor Alexander had ordered payment to the British merchants, of the damage sustained by the Russian embargo. It is pleasant to know that the proportion of the money due has been remitted to the merchants in different places. The merchants of Dundee have received their proportions. A most honourable testimony of the personal rectitude of our emperor, and a clear pledge of the good faith and friendly disposition of the court of Russia towards this country.

We understand that M. Andreossi has been able, through the assistance of our police, to discover in this country a forgery of French bank notes and government paper to an enormous amount. The persons engaged in it are all Frenchmen.—Having received information of the plan, and the names of some of the ruffians engaged in the plot, he communicated the facts to our ministers, who exerted all the powers of the police to assist him in the discovery. Sir Richard Ford was on Friday and Saturday employed in the examination of the delinquents. They have been taken with all their apparatus, and with the proofs of their guilt. They will be delivered up to the French government, there to be brought to trial for the offence. The alacrity which ministers have shewn to assist in the discovery of this diabolical plan of mischief, is a seasonable reproof to the sullen insinuations against their honour, with which the French journals are so incessantly filled.

January 11.

Yesterday morning Paris journals and a Dutch mail arrived.

Letters from Constantinople say, that the war still continues between the Turkish forces and the revolted beys in Egypt.—The latter, it seems, had conceived hopes of obtaining assistance from the English forces at Alexandria. It is evident, however, that such hopes must have been ill-founded, as nothing could be so impolitic as to offend the Porte by such a proceeding. The present critical state of affairs in Egypt, however, must give additional force to the application which, it is said, has been made to the grand signior to accede to a proposed alliance with England and Russia to guaranty Egypt. It is not easy to conceive any good reason why the Turks should refuse to enter into such a plan. We hope Russia agrees to it, in which case there is little doubt the Porte will ultimately concur. In that case the English forces might assist in reducing the rebellious beys, for while they are allowed to remain in Egypt, the authority of the grand signior must be merely nominal.

January 12.

Spain is rather tardy in sending us her ambassador. We (*Courier*) know not that any points of dispute remained between the two countries, till we heard the intelligence we communicated yesterday respecting our settlement in Honduras. Whether that intelligence be true or false we know not: if it be true, we should be tempted to consider Spain not so much a principal in the business as the agent of another power. Will such an act be considered as a proof of mere commercial rivalry? But allowing that there are points to be settled between this country and Spain, still it is strange that she does not send us her ambassador, who might enter into a negotiation for the purpose of adjusting them. We have heard it rumoured that she is displeased at our sending her a gentleman in the second diplomatic character of envoy, when she expected a minister, with the title of ambassador and minister plenipotentiary.

The treaty of Amiens has not been hitherto fulfilled, in that part of it which respects the rights of British subjects, proprietors of stock in the French funds, created between the revolution and the commencement of the war. The British creditors in those funds are many; and the general amount of the debt to them is very considerable. Other means having failed, they have, at last, determined to take measures, in common, in order to recover their property, under the obligations of the treaty of peace. Their hopes now rest in the protection of the British

government, and its energetic interposition with that of France. A committee of their number has already had communications with lord Hawkesbury on the subject. A general meeting which should yesterday have taken place at the London tavern, was, at his lordship's express request, deferred. His lordship will, in the mean-time, have an interview with the committee. The nature of the claims may be then more particularly stated to this minister, and he may, possibly, enable the committee at once to inform the general meeting what steps government is willing immediately to take in their behalf, and how far they may indulge hopes that the debts due to them by France, shall be, without evasion or undissembled injustice, speedily discharged.

January 13.

The late violent gales, we are sorry to say, done considerable damage. Accounts were received last night at the East-India house of the loss of the *Hindustan*, outward bound. She sailed some days ago from Gravesend, and not having arrived in the Downs in the usual time, it was supposed she had remained at the Hope. Unhappily the supposition was erroneous. She was lost in Queen's channel, Margate roads, on Tuesday night.

We are sorry to say that three midshipmen, and twenty of the crew, with a young gentleman of the name of Clarke, who was going out as a cadet, perished; and the rest of the crew was saved. The ship was 1248 tons, and was bound to the coast and China. It was her fourth voyage: She had bullion on board amounting to 49,000 ounces, the greater part of which, it is hoped, may be saved. It was the captain's first voyage.

We (*Courier*) have every reason to believe that the intelligence we communicated the day before yesterday respecting our settlement in the bay of Honduras is correct. A letter has been received to the following effect:—

"The Spaniards have suddenly warned the British settlers in the bay of Honduras and the other parts adjacent, to quit their settlements immediately, adding that but little time will be granted for this order to be carried into full effect, and that orders have already been given for the erection of a large battery, from which force would be used to carry this order into full effect."

The letter concludes by recommending that no more stores be sent to that quarter for the present.

This is one of the effects which it was predicted would be produced by the omission in the treaty of Amiens, of a stipulation for the renewal of ancient treaties.

But, after such an act, let us not be told that France and her allies only mean to run the race of commercial rivalry with us.—They seem to wish to have an Irish kind of race, that is, to run themselves, but to prevent their antagonist from running at all.

His majesty's ministers, we trust, will present a strong remonstrance against the measure.

January 14.

The city of Oorna, on the Black Sea, has lately become a place of important commerce. Merchants of every nation are established there. They possess extensive credit, transact the business of exchange, and trade in all the commodities of the Levant. At present, they are engaged in considerable speculations in grain, which is shipped off for the different ports of Italy and France.

The French, who seldom, if ever, want a pretext to support a favourite system, be its nature what it may, now pretend that Spain does not cede, but restores Louisiana to them. A writer on that subject, thus expresses himself in a recent and very late publication:—

"The French have been by circumstances, excluded from Louisiana, since the year 1769. It is one of the most fertile and enchanting countries on the face of the globe; they have lately caused it to be given back to them; and this restitution will constitute an era highly gratifying to the feelings of the inhabitants, who, though living upwards of thirty years under a foreign domination, never ceased to be Frenchmen, nor to offer up their yearly orisons to the eternal, for the felicity of France and of her children."

Among other reports, it is said, as soon as Buonaparte shall be declared and established emperor of the Gauls, he will be divorced from Madame Buonaparte, on the plea of state necessity, namely, that it is necessary to preserve the peace of his empire that the succession should be settled. With a view of having an heir to the imperial throne, he will marry a daughter of the prince of Baden, a most beautiful girl; this means he will become brother-in-law to the emperor of Russia, who is married to one of the princesses of Baden; and through the Wirtemberg family, he will be even related to the king of Great-Britain. Buonaparte will royalise himself with