

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1803.

BOSTON, June 18.

European Affairs.

THE arrivals from Europe since our last though they have not brought any articles of interest, nor any accounts later than before received; have furnished our regular file of English papers to the 1st May.—We cannot therefore give our readers any additional facts this day. And if we can correct some particulars already known—and present the best opinions on the probable issue of things, we shall not, we trust, have perused these files unprofitably.

An almost impenetrable curtain appears to be drawn over the real causes of the late misunderstanding between Great-Britain and France. Those who think they have thrown it partly aside, declare the refusal of Britain to surrender Malta, to be the prominent one. On this subject, we have a few particulars which we think will serve to correct former statements. It appears by the Paris *Moniteur*, that the emperors of Russia and Germany, have acceded to the guaranty of the independence of the isle and order of Malta; and that Prussia though at first it refused, had at length consented to become a guarantying power. If this be true the only cause of reticence, adduced by Commodore Ball, in his correspondence with the Commodore Bury, is removed; and if good faith is observed, the island must be surrendered to the grand master. In opposition to this it has been argued, that the aggressions and acquisitions made by France, since the treaty of Amiens, require that Great-Britain retain Malta, until they be relinquished. It appears probable that the latter reasoning will prevail, and that Great-Britain will attempt to retain possession of Malta. The question then is, would this measure be a cause of renewed war? Will Buonaparte sacrifice the commerce, and interrupt the prosperity of France, for a single island? We think not. As for Great-Britain, if she has resolved to retain the island, she must put all consequences at defiance; and should war ensue, she must meet it.—The event of war or continued peace will therefore rest with France, and the object we think will not be thought by the first consul worth the cost.

One thing is certain; Great-Britain has evacuated Egypt and the troops she lately had there had arrived at Malta, at the date of the last accounts.

It would appear from the speculations of the English and French politicians, that very much depended on a continuation, of the present, or a change in the English ministry. At the last dates no appearances of such a change was visible. We believe it to be true that Mr. Pitt had been offered a share in Mr. Addington's administration but had refused to accept it, unless the Grenvilles were also admitted into it; and that this condition had been declined.—This we are induced to think was the state of affairs at the last date; and that it does not justify any expectation of immediate war.

The preparations for war in Great-Britain were still making, though not with the activity heretofore observed, and the funds were in a continual state of fluctuation—but they are frequently operated on by causes independent of politics. They, however, stood at the same point on the 30th April, that they did on the 18th.

The north of Europe appears to be in great agitation from a very trifling cause—a bridge! It seems that on the frontiers of Russia and Sweden in Finland, a bridge forms part of their line of demarcation.—This bridge by the treaty of Nystad, was to remain the property of the two crowns, i. e. one half was to bear the colours of Russia and the other half those of Sweden. Lately the king of Sweden in his journey to Finland, finding the Russian part to have become decayed and neglected, ordered it to be repaired; hoisted the Swedish flag on both sides, and directed that no Russian subjects should be permitted to pass without paying toll. This has occasioned a strong correspondence between the parties, and so far has the misunderstanding been carried that at the last dates the most active preparations for war were making in Russia, and the emperor in person was about to head an army of 80,000 prime troops on a campaign to Finland. We know that frequently "great events from trivial causes spring," but we cannot believe that so trifling an object can involve two such nations as Sweden and Russia in war.

From France.

Since writing the above, Capt. Briggs, in the *Mary* from Nantes, has arrived here, after a passage of 38 days. He left Nantes the 10th May; and his accounts are a few days later than have been before received from the theatre of negotiation. He informs, that no essential variation had taken place, at the time of his departure in the conjectures, expectations, and reports on the issue of the negotiation between France and England, from those that had been in circulation some weeks previous. Thus far our verbal accounts.

By this arrival we have received Paris papers to the 7th May.—From their general complexion, it is apparent that the controversy was rapidly approaching to a crisis.—The "*Clef du Cabinet*," of the 6th May, says, "Lord Whitworth had announced his departure as fixed for yesterday, at 5 o'clock in the morning; but he has changed his resolution, and will continue some time longer here." The *Publiciste*, which is said to be a half official paper, of the same date says, "The departure of the English ambassador is deferred, at least for some days." That this resolution of his lordship had an angry appearance, may be gathered from the wording of this paragraph in the *Clef du Cabinet*, of the 6th May: "The preparation for the journey of the first consul to Belgium, still continue, notwithstanding the clouds which obscure our political horizon." In another paper, of the 6th, under the head of Legislative Proceedings, on the 5th May, is the following: "The expectation of an official communication from government to the legislative body upon our political situation with Great-Britain, attracted a vast concourse of people, who before the opening of the session, filled the different galleries, &c. But no communication was received."

A paper of the 3d May, says: "At the audience yesterday Mr. Monroe presented his letters of credence in quality of envoy extraordinary, from the United States of America;" the same paper adds, "It was remarked that the English ambassador was not present at this audience."

A paper of the 23d April informs, that an embargo had been imposed at Dunkirk on all the fishing vessels bound to Newfoundland. "This measure," it adds, "has for its object the procurement of good seamen in case of war."

NEW-YORK, June 20.

Extract of a letter from Dr. Seaman, of New-York, to Dr. Mitchell, dated

FLORENCE, Feb. 7.

"I was unable to obtain as much information respecting the quarantine regulation at Leghorn, as I could have wished. Thus much I learnt from a very uncomfortable experience, that vessels coming from any part of the United States of America have to do twenty days of quarantine before they can enter this city; and a considerable part of their cargoes have to remain forty days in the Lazaretto before they can be exposed for sale. And notwithstanding all this the Italians seem to think they treat us very favourably, as they say that since the fatal fever of Cadiz has been discovered to have been imported from America, the government of Spain has entirely interdicted every direct communication with them, not even permitting them to do quarantine in their harbours. So that every American vessel has to undergo her purification in some other place, before she can gain admittance into the ports of Spain.

"No attention whatever appears to be given in Leghorn to your bills of health, and unless some measures can be adopted that will gain the confidence of this government in their bills of health, our commercial intercourse with the country will be very much injured, if not entirely destroyed.

"Upon my return to Leghorn, which will be after having visited Rome and Naples, I propose to make myself better acquainted with their quarantine establishment and to ascertain, if possible, what means can be adopted to bring about a more liberal commerce between the two countries."

Of what avail is it that we protect our trade against the Tripolitans by a naval armament, and purchase peace with the other powers of Barbary at a great expence, if our commerce after all, is to be ruined in the Mediterranean, by the preposterous and impolitic regulations of the Christian nations relative to quarantine?

June 21.

We have accounts from Guadaloupe, by captain Hesteren of the brig *Rambler*, to the 5th of the present month. At that time a report was in circulation (brought by a vessel from Dominica) that thirteen sail of the line and five frigates with troops had arrived at Barbadoes.—A French frigate of 32 guns had sailed a few days before from Guadaloupe on a cruise.—Captain Scott of the schooner *Independence*, now at Guadaloupe, was boarded to the windward of the island by a British sloop of war then cruising on that station. Two transports with troops had arrived at Basseterre.—Business very dull; flour from 14 to 16 dollars per barrel, beef 12½, pork no sale, fish low.

At Martinique and Basseterre great quantities of military stores had been received, and active preparations were making for war.—An express lately reached Martinique from France with orders that all the line of Battle ships stationed there should be sent home without delay.

The French troops in the West-India islands die in great numbers of the prevailing sickness.

The cargo of the ship *Rolla*, from Calcutta, consisting of Bengal goods in excellent order and well laid in, is advertised to be sold at auction at Providence, Rhode-Island, on Wednesday the 29th inst. by Messrs. Benjamin Hopkin and Son.

A merchant in this city has received a letter from his correspondent at Cape-Francois, per the brig *H6und*, under date of the 5th instant, from which the following is an extract:

"This day the price of flour is thirty dollars a barrel.—We have not six days supply in the place. Every other article of provision is plentiful.—We hope in a few days to be supplied with a large quantity of coffee from the brigands as it is currently reported an arrangement for that purpose has been made with them.—On the first Messidor, (June 19th) the duties on all vessels will be as in 1789, viz.—In French vessels, imports free, exports 15 francs per 1000 cwt on coffee.—American vessels pay little or no duty with provisions; but dry goods are prohibited.—We have been fifteen days without an arrival from America.

June 22.

Capt. M'Gee, we are informed, is appointed American agent at Canton, in the room of Mr. Dorr.

Advices are received at Boston; the English consul had arrived at Alicant from Algiers, and that war between the British and the Algerines was expected.

Capt. Gilman, from Canton, informs us, that just before he sailed, John Tuck, grand heepoo of Canton, (chief officer of the customs) was poisoned by order of the emperor of China, who sent three Mandareens from Pekin for the purpose. The first gave him a poisonous pinch of snuff, the second a pill; and before the third was administered, he was a corpse. This is the mode in which he was punished for squeezing the poor. He took the poison with as much complacency as one friend would take a pinch of snuff from the box of another.

June 24.

By the British schooner *Betsey*, captain Kelly, 10 days from Halifax, we have received papers from that place as late as the 14th inst. We find by letters from St. John's, that the arrival of the ship *Lord McCartney*, furnish nothing later from London than the 4th ult. of course, the news said to have been brought by her falls to the ground. But capt. Hills, of the schooner *Success*, who arrived at Halifax on the 10th inst. from St. John's, informs, "that three or four days previous to his sailing, a brig arrived there, in 17 days passage from Plymouth, England.—This vessel might have brought accounts, to the 7th or 8th May from London; but all that we have been able to learn, is, that the press was hotter than ever—and that war was supposed to be inevitable."

[This vessel must have left Plymouth about the 12th of May, and if, at that time, the "press was hotter than ever, and war supposed to be inevitable," it is pretty evident that nothing of a pacific nature had occurred subsequent to Mr. Addington's communication to parliament on the 5th ult. Therefore, in our opinion, the probability of war increases.]

In our Halifax papers we find two extracts of letters from St. John's, noticing the arrival of the *Lord McCartney*—One of these letters says, "The channel fleet had sailed, under the command of admiral lord Nelson.—A manifesto was said to be preparing explanatory of the conduct, and intentions of his majesty's ministers; and another message, it was expected, would soon fix the business."

The other letter observes, "It was expected, that on the 6th of May, ministry would make the long looked for communication to parliament;—and Mr. Addington having declared in the house on the 2d, that the feelings of the nation would be deeply interested in the said communication, and from all circumstances taken together I am far from thinking it settled that we are not to have a war."

Captain Thr6p, of the brig *Merchant* from Martinique, informs that a French cutter brig with JEROME BUONAPARTE (brother to the first consul) on board, sailed from that port for France on the first of June.

Letters are received in town from Port-au-Prince under date of the 6th inst. by the brig *Lovely Lass*, captain Burbank, which mention that the plains of *Grand-Bois* and *Mirabelais* were in possession of the brigands; that the troops and inhabitants were encamped without the city; that a partial engagement had taken place, in which the blacks were repulsed; that a general attack was expected in a few days; and that Dessalines, according to report, was at *La Croix des Bouquets*, about three miles and a half distant from the town.

At Martinique on the 4th inst. flour 9 dollars per barrel, beef 13, pork 16 to 17, codfish 6 to 7, 12 dolls. per quintal, scantling 18 dollars per 1000.