

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1803.

BERLIN, May 24.

CITIZEN Laforet, minister extraordinary of the French republic, had his first audience of H. M. who gave him the most gracious reception.

The greatest activity prevails within this fortnight in our foreign department. Couriers are frequently dispatched both to Paris, Petersburg, Vienna, and London. It appears that this correspondence is relative to the fate of the electorate of Hanover. Our court without wishing to occupy this country, as it did lately, would gladly see it out of danger of an invasion. This has been notified to the French government from which an answer is hourly expected. It is imagined, that the new circumstances will engage the king to defer the journey he proposed to take to Franconia. The grand review is finished, and hitherto no preparations are making for the departure of his majesty.

The privy counsellor, de Cesar, appointed minister from Prussia to the Batavian republic, will immediately set off for the Hague.

LONDON, June 1.

A letter from the Hague, of the 22d ultimo, says, "On Saturday last Mr. Liston made an offer of neutrality to our government, on the part of England, provided it was rigorously observed, a proposition which was eagerly embraced; but as soon as citizen Semanville got scent of it, he repaired to the members of the government of state, and declared, that if they accepted the offers of the English minister, his government would instantly send 100,000 men into the country. They, however, then refused; but on some intimations, it seems that we have resolved to expose ourselves to the vengeance of England, rather than that of France; for to-day orders were issued for laying an embargo on all English ships in the ports of this republic. Mr. Liston has made no preparation for his departure."

June 4.

From the French papers it appears, that as far as is to be learnt from them, all parties join cordially in support of the war, and their determination to carry it on with spirit. The orators of the French government are loud in their complaints against Great-Britain. Even Boisy D'Anglas, a man considered as being moderate in views, joined in this violent language. The importance of the retention of Malta is magnified in extravagant terms. The most insidious views are attributed to ministers, for their wish to keep possession of it. It is contended that it is to be made subservient to our views against the grand signior by seizing on Egypt. They talk of our employing it as a means of exercising complete control over Italy, or insulting Spain, or destroying the whole influence of France in the Mediterranean. These and a number of other assertions are repeated in the report made to the tribunate by Daru, and they were loudly applauded. Invasion is threatened with ostentatious parade. Riouffe, in his speech, said, "Let but Heaven give us a fair wind, and these slanderers will see what we can do in thirty-six hours." This sentiment was vehemently applauded by the auditors.

The war and every concomitant they ascribe solely to Great-Britain, forming for herself an unjust code of public right, and acting upon it. These declarations are followed by a series of invectives against the English government, delivered in the tribunate and legislative body. An analysis of the negotiation is given, as well as the complaints of our ministers, and the different propositions offered by both parties.

Paris papers up to the 27th of May are received. The *Moniteur* of the 24th contains a long examination of the papers laid before the house of commons. It is affirmed that of the 72 articles contained in these papers, only ten are official—that the most important ones, and those which would throw most light on the transactions, have been suppressed, and that on the passages in others have been designedly omitted. These omissions complained of seem, from the specimens given, to relate entirely to the refusal of the emperor of Russia to guarantee Malta, which it appears the French minister stoutly contradicted.

The Paris papers to the 30th inst. have arrived this day. A column of the French army is destined to invade Naples. The expression is, "to occupy those posts in the kingdom of Naples, which were held by the French troops before the peace."

The French agents at Hamburg contrived to buy up all the naval stores in that city even before it was ascertained that hostilities would commence between this country and France; as a proof that the French government had resolved on war, notwithstanding all their pacific declarations.

Whatever difference of opinion may exist in parliament on the conduct of ministry, whatever may be the state of different parties, there is the greatest unanimity in the conviction, that the conduct of the French has been uniformly hostile since the defini-

tive treaty, and in a determination to resist the ambition of the enemy.

The arguments used against the ministry of having too long neglected to arrest the arm of Gallic aggression, are such as must endear them to every lover of peace. We believe the country at large will unite with us, in extolling the moderation and forbearance of the ministry. For we solemnly declare, that we should have expressed our disapprobation, had not the ministers waited till the measure of the French iniquity was complete.

From Lubeck we have the important intelligence, that the whole Russian fleet has been ordered to be fitted out with the greatest dispatch. Every ship at Revel and Cronstadt is preparing for sea with the utmost activity, so that a strong Russian squadron is expected to appear very soon in the Baltic. It is added, that in certain cases a considerable body of troops will be embarked on board it. According to the report of a captain of a ship which arrived at Lubeck on the 23d ult. in eight days from Revel, 13 ships of 40 guns and upwards, were even then lying ready to sail, in the road of Revel.

It is generally believed in the first circles, that the Russian ambassador at Paris, the count de Markoff, has been insulted by the first consul in the most gross and indecent manner. It is stated that the ambassador having presented a remonstrance to Buonaparte, in consequence of the unjust imprisonment of the English in France, the consul replied in the most outrageous terms. It is even said that he employed manual violence. At all events the general circumstance is by no means improbable.

June 6.

A French mail reached town on Saturday, and a regular official intercourse is to be continued; the government of each country having declared that, under existing circumstances, it will not be the first to interrupt it.

June 7.

We understand advices have been received from Lisbon, of the French ambassador having either actually left that city, or being on the point of leaving it, in consequence of the Portuguese refusing to shut their ports against the English.

We yesterday heard of the resignation of the right honourable William Dundas, one of the commissioners of the board of control.

Letters from Cadix, by the last mail, state, that all the ships of the line, and frigates in that harbour, are equipping with the utmost dispatch.

Yesterday we received Paris papers of the 30th ult. They contain nothing more than another supply upon paper to increase the naval force of the republic, and to facilitate the means of invasion. In consequence of a resolution unanimously agreed to, at a general assembly of the inhabitants of Paris, a voluntary subscription is immediately to be opened, for raising a sum to be appropriated to the construction and equipment of gun-boats and pinnaces, and boats fitted for the transportation of troops. The ship voted by the trading interest of the metropolis is to mount 120 guns, and to be called the *Commerce* of Paris. If the merchants of Paris can supply their government with one ship of the line, surely those of London could find little difficulty in fitting out a whole fleet.

The legislative body terminated its session on the 28th ult. Government has pledged itself, that the war shall be terminated in such a manner, as shall put it out of our power to renew it for a long time. Of its inclinations to annihilate the wealth, the influence, the happiness, and the power of Great-Britain, we have had sufficient proofs. The very measure it pursued during the peace had this end for its object. Should it succeed, will any one party in this country fare better than the rest? No—all will be destroyed and plundered with indiscriminating fury! With a war before us, avowed by our enemy to be a war of extermination, can any one be so blind to his own safety as to hesitate respecting the exertions and sacrifices he ought to make for his country?

In the mean-time our cruisers continue to bring in a number of prizes. This, however, we consider of but secondary moment, and chiefly useful in as far as it takes from the means of our enemy from carrying on the war; and in this view of it we cannot see why the Spanish treasure ships merely for the convenience of France, should be permitted to reach their destined ports, without any attempt on our part to hinder them. Will France hesitate to make use of the wealth which has been accumulated in South-America, during the late war, as soon as it shall safely arrive in Spain? Can any one believe that Spain will be allowed to remain neutral longer than suits the convenience of the first consul? We are not advocates for robbery, but we hold it to be sound policy to keep the enemy from getting possession of such means for war, and that it would be better both for this country and Spain to make the latter our creditor; and

afterwards to return the property when peace shall be again restored.

Mr. Talbot, lord Whitworth's secretary, arrived in town on Saturday morning; and without taking any rest, though he had travelled all night, he immediately dressed and went to the drawing-room to pay his respects to their majesties. We find that no restriction has been at any time laid by the French government on any of the persons connected with the British embassy, and that none of lord Whitworth's property, or of the property of his suite, has been stopped. Mr. Mandville, the second secretary, is still left in Paris, to settle some private affairs. The English women and children are leaving Paris as fast as possible: but the men are detained prisoners of war, on parole. Most of them are sent to Fontainebleau, but such as can assign good reasons to the contrary (Louis d'ors perhaps have some weight) are allowed to go where they please.

June 8.

The endeavours of the first consul to render the war popular in France, appear to have succeeded in a very unexpected degree. Several of the principal towns have followed up their professions of attachment by unanimous offers to build ships of war at their own expence: subscriptions have been opened at Paris and throughout the department of the Seine, for building transports and gun-boats; and even the scholars of the Polytechnic school, "envying (to use their own words) the lot of those brave men who shall be the first to land on the shores of England," have requested permission to build and arm a flat-bottomed boat, to be manned by thirty of their number, "desirous of partaking in the earliest military expedition against Great-Britain." Let them all, young and old, come if they dare!

The French funds remain tolerably steady: they are 48 1-2.

June 9.

At the meeting of the whig club, on Tuesday last, Mr. Fox, on his health being drank, said, that though he considered the present war as more unnecessary, and the arguments in favour of it more futile than those urged in support of any contest in which the country had for a long time been engaged, the whig club, in case the enemy should be mad enough to attempt the invasion of this country, would be found among the foremost to oppose them with their persons, their means, and their influence.

June 10.

His majesty's frigate *La Loire* is stated to have captured and sent into Portsmouth a fine Dutch frigate.

We stated on Wednesday, that advice had been received of the French troops being on the point of entering Bremen; and yesterday we mentioned a report that reached us, of the enemy being also on their march to Cuxhaven. We have now to inform our readers, that authentic advices reached town yesterday, of the former place, (which belongs to his Britannic majesty) having been taken possession of by a republican force on the 2d instant, and that a strong detachment was at the same time in full march towards Hamburg. These proceedings it is scarcely necessary for us to observe, are a part of the system adopted by France, for excluding the commerce of this country from every part of the continent. Whether the great powers of the north will interpose to prevent this unprincipled project, not less injurious to their own interests than to those of Great-Britain, it is at present extremely difficult to determine. Some accounts state, that Prussia has expressed a wish to the French government that Hanover, &c. should not be invaded; while others assert, that the court of Berlin will not in any respect interfere in the dispute between England and France. The Paris papers to the 7th instant (which arrived yesterday) lay much stress upon the latter statement, and infer, from the probability of both Russia and Prussia being aware of the steps that would be taken by the chief consul, in the event of war with England, that neither of those powers will oppose the present measures of the French government. Prussia, it is said, without taking any part whatever in the contest, will content herself with forming a cordon of observation along the boundaries of her own territories; and the naval armaments in the ports of Russia, the same accounts state, are preparing upon the pure principle of an armed neutrality. There is at present, very little data upon which to reason on this subject; but a few days will, we trust, provide us with such information as will enable us to form an accurate opinion of the relative situation of the several powers.

By the French papers we find that the French funds, though confined to so few hands, and consequently less likely to be suddenly affected by national alarm as our funds, are rapidly falling. The consolidated five per cents are at 48 s. 7 1/2 cents.