

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1803.

BOMBAY, February 19.

ON Thursday last, a most dreadful and alarming fire broke out in our crowded and popular Bazar, the ravages of which, though it is not yet quite extinguished, it is impossible to relate:—The extent of the devastation may be somewhat conjectured by those who are acquainted with Bombay, when we say, that about three fourths of the Bazar are destroyed, including perhaps, 1000 houses, and when the nature of these dwellings is considered, having many families under one roof, the number of the unfortunate sufferers must be proportionally great.—We are at a loss to state with certainty where the fire originated—it is said to have been in a stable on the morning of Thursday, where some valuable horses became its first victims—unfortunately the wind continued rather high the whole day which increased the flames in the progress of its direction with astonishing rapidity, and so great and violent was the conflagration at sunset, that the destruction of every house in the Fort was to be apprehended.—All the records and papers in the secretary's office were early removed, and the houses of business followed the example—indeed, every inhabitant, however remote, took the precaution to remove his furniture and effects.

Beyond the Bazar the flames extended to the king's barracks, which are mostly destroyed. The custom-house also is in ruins, proceeding from thence to the range of houses called the Tank Barracks where it was stopped by the prudent precaution of using artillery to beat down the contiguous buildings. During the whole continuance of this awful destruction every effort was used to oppose its progress, but the fury of the flames aided by the wind, rendered all attempts vain.

The utmost exertion to stop the progress of the flames proving of no avail, nothing remained but to allow it to take its course; every mind viewing in awful suspense the prospect which threatened to involve the garrison, and every soul within it, in one common ruin, from the course in which the wind drove the conflagration being in an immediate line with the arsenal; yet however secure the magazines might be from their construction, and in spite of the reliance all placed in the precautions which the established activity of the commissariat department, we were assured would adopt to provide against the impending destruction, one could not divest oneself from that serious contemplation which the dreadful crisis inevitably produced; for every hope to arrest the progress of the all destroying flames by any human means had been denied us, and our reliance depended upon the intervention of Providence alone; at about midnight this general gloom was dissipated—the wind abated, the conflagration visibly decreased in the quarter whence alone the danger threatened, and receding from the arsenal, every mind became calmed.

The honourable the governor, with that benevolence and humanity which distinguish his character, attended throughout the whole of the melancholy scene, with the gentlemen of his suite, giving every direction and assistance which could be suggested, and animating the exertions of others by his presence and example, until the hour of three the following morning, when the merciful progress of the conflagration subsided, and all appearance of further destruction ceased.

Vice-admiral Rainer whose humane zeal led him immediately to the spot, with all the captains and officers of his Squadron, from whose active interference in assisting and directing the bold and spirited efforts of their crews, much of the wide spreading calamity was prevented: general Nicoll also attended and anxiously directed the exertions of the military to the same end; while every officer and gentleman of the settlement contributed their generous aid on this distressing occasion; and we are truly concerned to add that captain Mackintosh, of the country service, in conducting one of the engines to a particular spot with captains Elliot and Lane, was overwhelmed by a falling wall, which broke his leg and arm, but of his recovery we are truly rejoiced to hear there is the greatest hope. Some of the seamen we are also informed, have been buried in the ruins, but the particulars are not yet fully ascertained. Such was the active ardour displayed on the first alarm by the fire-bell and the beat of the drum, that every one flew to lend his assistance in extinguishing the flames, but the dryness of the season, the narrowness of the streets, and above all, the very combustible materials of which the houses in that quarter of the town are constructed, aided by a strong wind from the N. W. rendered all endeavours vain to stop the progress of the flames, though they succeeded in moderating their fury. We cannot pretend to describe the horror, dismay and consternation which pervaded the unhappy sufferers—thousands of poor natives, endeavouring to save their little property, were seen thronging in all directions, bewailing their unhappy fate, and thrown

at once destitute of home and shelter, were obliged to seek the repose of exhausted nature, in the streets or fields.

The damages sustained by individuals, some of whom were opulent native merchants, cannot well be estimated. But we trust that this severe misfortune may induce greater precaution in the prevention of similar scenes, and what is more material, that it may tend to reconcile the natives to such arrangements respecting this extensive Bazar as shall the more effectually guard against the recurrence of so dreadful a calamity.

FLORENCE, June 20.

Our coast, and their harbours, especially Leghorn, are occupied by numerous corps of French troops. A demand, it is said, has been made of our government by the French of one million of Florentine livres, 3000 men, and the necessary arms and ammunition for them. As our city is unable to raise so great a sum, the senator, Seroni, has been deputed to wait on general Murat, to prevail on him not to insist on it.

An English Squadron, with land troops, has arrived at Naples: its object is supposed to be, to take possession of the islands Procida, Capri, and Lichia. The garrison in Fort St. Elmo, has been reinforced.

NAPLES, June 25.

The French Italian army has been received in the Neapolitan territory, which it has entered, under the command of general St. Cyr, with every demonstration of friendship, and in strict conformity to the conditions of the treaty concluded between the French and the king of Naples before the French army evacuated Naples. The army is extending itself along all the coast, and occupies them together with the harbours.

HAGUE, June 20.

In three weeks we have sent four extra ambassadors to Paris; they were, however, not admitted to an audience, but sent back with contempt, and with threats if they returned, that the dungeons of the temple were ready for their reception; the impatience of the Corsican is as great as his suspicion; and he has written the most ridiculous, the most impertinent orders to our government, to recall our ambassador from England, and to force the English ambassador to quit Holland. All our arsenals, all our dockyards, are now taken possession of by Frenchmen; all our naval, military, and commercial stores are put in requisition and registered to be at the disposal of France. The magazines and depots of military stores belonging to individuals are under French seals; and all arms whatever of armourers and individuals are registered, and cannot be disposed of without a written permission from general Desfolles. All the ships in our harbours, all the schuits in our rivers, and even the boats in our canals, are registered to be in requisition: all our sailors and mariners are enrolled to be ready at a moment's notice, and their parishes, parents, and property are to answer for their absence or desertion.

Six of our most respectable citizens, who proposed to sign an address for the preservation of our neutrality, have been arrested by French soldiers, and carried away by French spies, to receive in French dungeons, the reward of Dutch patriotism. After the rolls of our municipality, 20,000 passes have been delivered this last fortnight for America; Russia, Denmark and Sweden, and 5000 more are demanded, which want of time has not permitted them to expedite.

In an ordinance of the French commander in chief, it is said, every person who speaks in favour of England, is to be punished as a spy; every person who speaks against France, is to be punished as a rebel; and any one presuming to speak against the first consul, is to be punished as a conspirator.

At the same time that we are suffering all the oppressions Frenchmen can inflict, and all the cruelties their Corsican sovereign can invent or command, we hear their boasts and their threats of what they intend to do when in England; and the following words were used by general Victor, at the table of one of our directors last week, "the English nation shall be dispersed round the globe like the tribes of Israel; Englishmen shall be found every where, but England no where." They talk of an army of England, of which Buonaparte is to be commander in chief; generals Belliard and Andreossi are to command the centre; Desfolles and Mortier the right wing; Murat and St. Clere the left wing; and talk of an invasion at the same time of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

The French officers say, that 30,000 Frenchmen are at present in our country; but I know there are not so many; but on the Rhine, in Brabant, and in

other neighbouring countries, there are collected 60,000 men. Our government has been forced to appoint general Victor commander of our troops, which are to be equipped, and to live at the expence of the Hanoverians, but for which we are to pay France more than it would cost us here.

An incorporation with France is now looked upon as the only termination of our sufferings; and if the report of the French generals can be depended on, such a measure will take place as soon as Russia has consented that the prince of Orange should get Hanover.

LIVERPOOL, July 11.

We cannot but congratulate our managers and the town, on the acquisition of so effective an actor as Mr. Cooper:—His performance of the remorseless tyrant Richard the Third on Saturday evening was truly analytical;—when he evinced a chastified judgement in delivering the text of his author, he gave to the passion all its native energy and force; throughout this arduous character we witnessed but few of those lapses which the fastidious refinement of the modern school has of late made too prominent. Mr. Cooper seeks not for emphasis to portray particular beauties in the scene, while the grand object, passion, remains obscured; he caught the leading characteristics of Richard throughout the various operations of his ruthless mind, with facility, and depicted them with the boldness of a master.—Richard is of that description of character which requires not only strong mental, but equally strong bodily powers.—Mr. Cooper is happy in the possession of both; and we will venture to pronounce that since the days of Garrick, the English stage has not boasted a more perfect representative of this character. The town will be gratified to see him announced for a second time.

KINGSTON, (Jam.) July 30.

Thursday evening arrived at Port-Royal, the French schooner L'Oiseau, taken by the Squadron cruising off St. Domingo. She brought dispatches for the admiral, and sailed again yesterday morning. Information is received by her, that the French admiral, with two sail of the line and a frigate, had left the Cape on the 25th inst. hoping to escape; that the Vanguard had captured one of the line of battle ships, called La Duquesne, and the Elephant was left engaged with the other ship, and several of the Squadron were in chase of the frigate.

Yesterday morning his majesty's ship Vanguard, with her prize La Duquesne, of 74 guns, arrived at Port-Royal.

Before the Vanguard lost sight of the Squadron, his majesty's ship Elephant was alongside the French admiral's ship, (a 74) and his majesty's ship Theseus was nearly up with them; there can be no doubt therefore of her being taken.

The French cartel schooner, Two Friends, from Port-au-Prince, in 6 days, also arrived yesterday at Port-Royal. We learn that she brings dispatches for his excellency the commander in chief, and a deputation from the principal planters and merchants at that place, who are instructed to endeavour to obtain permission for them to be received in this island, and offering to give possession of Port-au-Prince to our troops.

NEW-YORK, September 8.

We understand that Christopher Gore, Esquire, one of the commissioners of the United States, in London, will shortly embark for this country. Mr. Cabot, secretary of the board of commissioners, we learn, also intends returning to the United States.

The two messengers dispatched in search of the person suspected of embezzling the money from the Manhattan bank, returned yesterday. We understand they went as far as Albany, where they found that a person of the same name had taken a seat in the stage and departed for Poughkeepsie, but from the description, it was not the same. He was traced for about 70 miles to the northward.

Spain received from South-America, during the late short peace, no less than forty-nine millions of dollars in specie.

Elizur Goodrich, Esq; is elected by the freemen of New-Haven, mayor of that city.

The agent for the American claimants on the British government, for spoiled property, detentions, &c. received a large sum of the first instalments of the awards, on the 15th July.

PHILADELPHIA, September 5.

Captain Collet informs, the utmost attention is paid to the rights of American seamen in London, for though there is the greatest demand for men, and the most rigorous press is carried on in that place, yet even landmen are not spared, when they can get hold of them, yet whenever an American has been