

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, M A Y 3, 1804.

Foreign Intelligence.

From late London Papers, received at Boston, New-York and Philadelphia.]

GERMANY.

VIENNA, February 4.

NEVER was there such a bustle among our ministry as at present. The private secretaries are almost inadequate to the task of making up the dispatches which are continually forwarding by couriers to Paris, Petersburg, Berlin, &c. Several ministers of great talents have frequently long conferences with the first minister of state. In the war department, a more than double vigilance is observed. There is a great attention among the troops, which excites apprehension in the friends of peace. Several military persons of the first rank shew, by the dispositions which they are making, that they momentarily expect other orders. A yet an impenetrable veil hangs before these important omens, which however threaten a speedy and decisive solution.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 6.

THE DEY OF ALGIERS.

Extract of a letter from an officer in lord Nelson's fleet, dated off Algiers, Jan. 18, 1804.

On the night of the 15th, the Superb, commanded by captain Keats, anchored at Algiers, bringing Mr. Falcon, the consul general on board, and a letter from lord Nelson to the Dey, demanding that Mr. Falcon should again be received as consul there, and that all the Maltese who have been lately captured by the English cruisers, should be liberated and given up as British subjects. On the following morning, at day-break, a salute was fired from the fort, which, however, captain Keats did not return, but sent a lieutenant on shore with a letter, to request an audience of the Dey, which was accordingly granted. Captain Keats, accompanied by Mr. Scott, chaplain to lord Nelson, who speaks the Arabic fluently, and who acts as interpreter there, waited upon the Dey, and presented lord Nelson's letter, with a suitable and spirited remonstrance on the occasion. Throughout the interview, which lasted nearly an hour, the Dey's conduct was very violent and outrageous, and it concluded with his positively refusing to receive either Mr. Falcon back again, or to give up any of the Maltese in possession.

On the 17th, in the morning, our fleet of ten ships of the line came in sight of Algiers, when captain Keats again went on shore to wait upon the Dey, who never refused to see him, he being then busily employed on the batteries, and after waiting for nearly two hours, captain Keats, returned on board, and on the fleet entering the bay, captain Keats went on board the Victory, and communicated to lord Nelson all that had passed with the Dey.

Under these circumstances his lordship did not think it advisable to attempt further intercourse with the Dey, or to make use of any threat he was not prepared to realize, as though we could easily in a few days have destroyed his whole fleet, which was then lying in the Mole, and have knocked down the town of Algiers at their ears, we might have crippled some of our ships in such a manner as to render them unable to relieve the blockade of Toulon at this season of the year, which was deemed a much more important object at the present moment. We therefore to-day sailed from Algiers, on our way to Toulon again.

The whole squadron were more disappointed than we possibly express, at not being permitted to humiliate the Dey, and extirpate for a time this nest of pirates. Two hours would have done the business completely, and I trust we shall one day make the experiment.

I am perfectly convinced, from my own observation, and it was also the opinion of the ablest officers in the fleet, that four sail of the line would easily destroy all their works, and all their navy in the morning, with very little loss.—They have in the bay a great number of guns mounted on their principal battery, which defends the Mole where their ships are laid up, and it has a formidable appearance; but it is so injudiciously constructed, that the line of battle ships can anchor upon each side of it, within half pistol shot, where not a gun could be brought to bear upon them, and in which position they would soon lay the whole work in ruins. The work is the sole defence of the town from the sea-side, except an old wall without a single gun mounted upon it, and which a few broadsides would sweep into dust.

The garrison does not amount to above four thousand soldiers (if they can be called such,) who have no discipline or courage, and who particularly dread the English; not only from our naval skill, but from an ancient prophetic tradition they have amongst

them, and which they all firmly believe "that Algiers is to be taken and destroyed by the English on a Sunday." The prophecy may be easily fulfilled by us whenever we chuse, and we must shortly take some decided steps to humble the Dey, unless we are content to pay him tribute, like most of the other European powers. No consul now can ever be sent back with honour or safety till satisfaction is obtained for the insults we have received.

"The Dey of Algiers is entirely guided by some Jew merchants residing at Algiers."

When admiral Linois's squadron fled from Pondicherry in the last week of July, (probably on receiving the intelligence of the war from the French government,) they left on shore 150 troops and six sacks of dollars, landed from one of their frigates. This treasure is now in our hands, as is also the town, though the French troops are not disarmed.—The French agents had already begun to form a vast establishment of seapoys, by enormous bounties, and increase of pay, beyond that which we give to our native troops. The number stated to have been enrolled, though not regimented, are not less than 5000. This force is now, however, necessarily dispersed.

March 10.

Government are buying up a very great number of old merchant ships, for the purpose of sinking them at the mouths of the enemy's harbours.

From Dutch news-papers to the 3d instant, we have selected some interesting information from France, which we believe, will be found exclusively in our paper.—On the 23d ult. Cardinal Belloz, archbishop of Paris, presented the congratulations of the clergy of Paris, on the discovery of the late conspiracy. On the 24th of February, Bessieres, commandant general of the consular guard, presented also similar congratulations on the part of his corps to madame Buonaparte.—Here follows a very important paper on the subject of the invasion, being an address to the first consul, and containing, no doubt, the sentiments of the French government.

From the staff of Boulogne, to the first consul.

BOULOGNE, February 24.

"Citizen First Consul,

"The national flotilla have learnt, with the most lively indignation, the horrible attempt against your person. Like all the corps of the army—like all the citizens of the country—we tremble at the danger you have passed; but, placed in the face of that inimical land—which soon will be a witness what French valour can do, guided by virtue and good faith, against crimes and perjury—our souls were affected in reflecting that a conspiracy, the atrocity of which is increased by the inconceivable union of its accomplices, was about to put an end to the prosperous destinies of France; and that this flotilla, assembled at your orders, owing its existence to your genius, would find itself out of condition to fulfil the glorious cause which its hero creator alone would make it undertake. Thanks to the God of our armies, who has preserved you to lead us to victory! Yes, citizen first consul, the flotilla will break the space which separates it from those shores destined to be a new theatre of triumph for the brave armies of the republic. Vainly shall the enemy's fleets attempt to stop our passage! You have made the calculations! The means are ready! Order—and success shall prove to Europe that all is possible, when your genius conceives, and Frenchmen execute. Health and respect!

(Signed)

E. BRUIX, LACROSSE, LAFONDE, &c.

March 12.

An expedition failed on Thursday evening against one or more of the enemy's ports, which it is confidently believed we can hermetically seal up by sinking a number of large vessels, deeply and heavily laden, in the mouth of them. Boulogne is the port which can be so sealed up, and the thousand and one gun-boats it contains, thereby rendered useless. On Thursday evening several large ships, consisting of two sixty-fours, some frigates, and bombs, with several gun-brigs, shaped their course for Boulogne. A very heavy firing was heard at Dover the whole of Friday; towards the evening it was more heavy, and the houses at Dover were shaken by it; it continued during part of yesterday. It is supposed that the expedition which failed on Thursday evening was engaged in accomplishing its object. The large ships which have failed are, it is said, loaded with stones, and these stones united together by iron bars and chains, so as to form one solid mass—and these are to be scuttled side by side, so as to lay the foundation for an embankment of sand, in the same manner as the French themselves succeeded by means of cones at Cherbourg. The whole of this will be done under the cover of our blockading squadron. The immediate good to be derived from it, is that it will give our ships increased depth of water in approaching the port, and enable them by a concentrated fire of bombs, to burn the whole force assembled.

The intelligence which has been for sometime circulated of the sailing of the French fleet from Toulon, is repeated on the authority of letters brought by the Lisbon mail of Saturday, and of one received from our squadron off Ferrol. At Cadiz it was generally believed that the enemy's fleet put to sea on the 23d of January. No official communication of this event has reached the admiralty; and we have been favoured this morning with the perusal of letters from Ferrol, which positively state that the French ships were still in Toulon on the 14th ultimo.

By our Deal letter of this morning, we learn that a most tremendous firing was kept up a Boulogne yesterday, the object of which is supposed to have been the destruction of the flotilla of the enemy at that port.

A report has obtained, that lord Moira is to command an expedition to Holland. We cannot pledge ourselves for the accuracy of this statement.

March 15.

WAR WITH SPAIN.

It is reported in the political circles, at the West end of the town that this event is at no great distance. Indeed, we have been confidently assured that letters of marque and reprisal are now preparing to be issued against the ships and vessels belonging to that power.

DOVER, March 13.

Since my last, very heavy firing has been heard in the direction of Boulogne; but it being very thick weather, nothing could be seen from our hills, and no news has been heard from our blockading squadron; but last night three of the enemy's gun boats were seen standing in for the Downs, with English colours above the French.—The firing has been very heavy again to-day; and it being quite calm and thick, we have heard no news of the result; it is supposed that the enemy have made a movement to come out in the roads.

YARMOUTH, March 14.

Yesterday a great deal of firing was heard from the South East, which has continued great part of the day; it is supposed that an attack has been made by Sir Sidney Smith on the gun boats in Flushing.

American Intelligence.

MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON, April 17.

On Sunday, the schooner Topsham Beauty, capt. Somes, arrived at Gloucester, in 30 days from Surinam. We learn, that a British fleet was at the mouth of Surinam river with troops, and had demanded the surrender of the colony; that the governor had refused to submit to the English, and had expressed his determination to defend the place as long as possible; and that in consequence of the answer arrangements were making for a vigorous attack on the place.

April 23.

FROM THE ISLE OF FRANCE.

Captain Knowles, arrived here yesterday, in 68 days from the Isle of France, informs, that the news of the destruction of Bencoolen, had been confirmed; and that an official account had been received of the surrender of Pondicherry, to the English. The French troops, who defended the place for a time with great bravery, were allowed the terms of capitulation which they had asked for.

Captain Knowles further informs, that the privateers of that port, had not been very successful in their cruises against the English commerce in those seas; several of them had returned, a few days before he sailed, without having met with a single prize.

FROM THE EAST INDIES.

Captain Myrick, who arrived here on Friday last, from Batavia, in the ship Indus, informs, that a French squadron, of one 74, two frigates, and the corvette Berceau, (probably that commanded by admiral Linois) sailed from Batavia, the 8th December, which previous to the arrival of the Indus, had destroyed the English pepper magazines at Bencoolen, (on the island of Sumatra) to the amount it was said of from fifteen to twenty thousand picols.—And the same squadron had captured an English ship at Bencoolen, with a valuable cargo of Calcutta and Madras goods, and sent her to the Isle of France.

CONNECTICUT.

NEW-LONDON, April 17.

Anchored at Black-Point, (about eight miles to the westward of this port,) a ship from Cape-Francois, bound to New-York, with 300 men, women and children on board, who had made their escape from the Cape to save their lives. Mr. Tracy, of Norwich, was on board, who fled with the rest.