

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, M A Y 10, 1804.

Foreign Intelligence.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, March 6.

The Courier de Londres, of Tuesday, under the head of Paris, contains the two following letters, which, it says, have excited a great sensation in the military circles:

General Moreau to lieutenant-general Duroc. PARIS, September 8.

GENERAL, I HAVE received the letter which you have done me the honour to write to me in the name of the first consul, offering me a command in the expedition against England. I thought that my opinion of that enterprise was sufficiently known to have saved me from the unpleasantness of rejecting such a proposition. I shall, now, however, answer with the frankness of a soldier, who can explain himself the more fully, without reserve, upon the present occasion, as he has given some proofs of courage, and done his duty in some important services; and besides, general, I consider your letter as being rather intended to inform me of your intentions, than as transmitting to me orders. I have never been the advocate of maritime expeditions, particularly since I have seen the remains of our marine, and the choice of our armies, showed up in them with astonishing rapidity. I think that, in forming enterprises, the issue of which is very uncertain, and the result of which may give a mortal blow to the government which conceives them, and to the nation which seconds them, one should be forced to them by circumstances so imminent, that the safety and honour of the State would be compromised, if one should make a retrograde step which should discover weakness or irresolution.

I do not see that the present circumstances offer us to risk, against a thousand unfavourable chances, the greater part of our land forces; and that our marine, which is beginning to be created by magic, by an enthusiastic and industrious people. I have asked myself, when I saw the considerable armaments that were making for the re-occupation or acquisition of our colonies, whether the result was so solid that we should hope to be able to recover what we had recovered or acquired, and if the restoration of our commerce were so necessary or certain that we ought to employ in it so much treasure and so many soldiers. Let the first consul permit me, as a soldier, who feels a lively attachment to his old companions in arms, to express here some regret for the unfortunate events in the too bold combinations which have destroyed so great a number of them. My regret will explain to him my present opinion of the expedition that is preparing, and my refusal to go in part the direction of it. We had the best army in Europe, the best means of recruiting our forces weakened by eleven years of war. In its place we have now corps almost entirely composed of conscripts, among whom we no longer observe the veteran soldiers; but like those ruins which attest the grandeur and magnificence of those edifices which time has overthrown.

At present, if we may judge from the immense preparations that are making from the concentration of our forces, upon points near the coast, recollecting the declarations made by government, and the reports which it accredits, the business in hand is nothing less than a desperate enterprise, the improbable success of which would be the ruin of England, but whose almost certain result will weaken us as a continental power, and be our total destruction as a maritime nation. I may be permitted to ask, upon seeing interviews of such great magnitude hazarded or compromised, whether we were in a situation so critical with respect to England, that we were obliged to swear its destruction, and to prepare our own ruin. We were successful and respected upon the continent; we directed with too much impetuosity perhaps all its political transactions; we were safe from the power of the English navy, and for a long time, no doubt, against the intrigues of the ministers of England; and in this situation, truly strong, energetic, and independent, that we attempt an enterprise which could only be excused by a despair that left us no choice of resources. I am far from disapproving of the enthusiasm excited in the nation against a nation eternally our rival, and almost always its enemy, from blaming its efforts and the sacrifices which it inspires; but I think that the action of government ought to confine itself to the development of these dispositions for the purpose of preparing, through it, the restoration of our marine; but to go farther to devote to such great objects, our armies, still in the labour of their re-organization; this general, be assured, is to expose us to be defeated by those continental powers who are jealous

of us, and have their eye upon us. This is to replace us in the disastrous circumstances, from which we were only extricated by the miracle that brought back Buonaparte from Egypt, and made him triumph on the 18th Brumaire. May I be now permitted, general, to make an observation which a wise and regular government is worthy to hear and to appreciate; but which I should not have hazarded in the time of disorder and anarchy, when the law of nations was scarcely more respected among us than the liberty of individuals. We are told every day that we are restored to civilization, that we are replaced in the first rank of social order, and yet an expedition is announced worthy in its principles of those unsettled colonies who contend with their neighbours for enjoyment which they do not find at home, or of those savage hordes who see, in the end of war, nothing but the booty which they may acquire, and in its result the total annihilation of the adverse horde.

Such, however, are the strange ideas that have been propagated among the soldiers to excite them to obtain, from their cupidity, a devotion expected in vain from real courage. I do not pretend here to discuss the rights of conquest, nor to examine whether they can be extended in proportion to the perils which have been run to obtain them; but is it politic to announce before hand every thing that is meant to be derived from it? Is it fit to present it to the eyes of those who are to undertake it, only as a vast scene of pillage and assassination? It is, no doubt, contrary to the intentions of the first consul that such means should be employed to corrupt the minds of our brave warriors, and to substitute the love of gain for the honour of glory; but it is to you, general, I confide the honourable task of illustrating to him these intrigues, and telling him how much they afflict military men, who are faithful to the laws of honour. They all see, as I do, with inquietude, that every day is suffered to depress that spirit which in the early period of our military glory had no other impulse but the thirst of glory, the love of the country. I might almost say the enthusiasm of liberty, and surely that spirit will not revive, in which nothing is demanded of them but a blind temerity, in which nothing is prescribed to them but the abuse of victory. I speak with liberty, with confidence; and I do not think it a proof of courage. It would be shewing a want of esteem for the head of the government to see any danger in telling him what is just and true.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Lieut. general Duroc to general Moreau. One o'clock in the morning.

MY COMRADE,

I have laid before the first consul the letter which you have done me the honour to write to me, the 8th instant. It is with pain that I send it back to you by his orders. The gen. first consul charges me to inform you that he does not recognize in it the language of a Frenchman, nor the character of a distinguished soldier. He has sent it back to you for the purpose, that by destroying this evidence of an error which he wishes to forget, you may be sure that it will never be made use of to tarnish your glory, nor to impeach your intentions. The general first consul orders me to acquaint you, that he wishes to have some conversation with you in private, the 25th instant.

I am, with respect, your comrade.

DUROC.

March 15.

The report of the sailing of the Toulon fleet seems contradicted by an address which appears in the Moniteur of the first instant, signed by admiral Gantheume, and several other officers, and dated Toulon, February 21st.

The firing heard at Deal and Dover two or three days ago, did not, it is now said, proceed from our cruisers, but from the enemy, who were exercising their mortars, gun-batteries, and flotilla. Their boats and vessels have made no movement indicative of an intention to put to sea.

YARMOUTH, March 12.

The Princess of Wales cutter, commanded by lieutenant Robert Cameron, arrived in the roads yesterday afternoon, with dispatches from Sir Sidney Smith, after a run of eleven hours from Flushing, where she left the commodore, who is not content with blockading ports in the common way, but has actually moored his own ship, the Antelope, Crescent and Magicienne, at the mouth of the Duerloo, which has effectually stopped up that passage to Flushing; the Cruiser brig, and Rattler sloop of war, are moored in Wullings, within three miles and a half of the enemy's flotilla, which are anchored in the roads, to the amount of 60 or 70 sail. When our ships can do this, in the face of an enemy, and in their own harbours, what have Englishmen to fear from invasion.

American Intelligence.

MASSACHUSETTS.

BOSTON, April 25.

Captain Taylor, from St. Bartholomews, informs of the receipt of the intelligence there from Barbadoes, announcing the arrival of an English fleet, with 1300 troops on board, destined, it was supposed, against Martinique and Surinam. Our last accounts from England, mention the equipment of a fleet for the West-Indies; and we find by our monthly army list, for January, that the 16th, 46th and 70th regiments of the line, were embarked for the West-Indies. They sailed about the 2d January. Admiral Dacres commanded the Squadron.

April 29.

FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Captain Coleman arrived at Nantucket, from Salou, touched at Gibraltar, on his passage, and there saw a letter from commodore Pickle, informing of his having taken a very valuable Tripolitan ship, and another prize, with 30 gentlemen and as many ladies, on a party of pleasure; with these it was expected he would be able to exchange the officers of the Philadelphia frigate.

We learn, that Mr. Eaton is to go out to Tripoli, to negotiate peace with that regency; or to bring the war to a prompt issue.

NEW-YORK.

NEW-YORK, April 30.

Arrived, the British ship Minerva, Valentine, in 40 days from Falmouth, (England.) The Minerva sailed from Falmouth on the 21st ultimo, in company with 6 sail for Newfoundland, under convoy of the Wolverine, captain Gordon, of 16 guns, and on the 25th, in lat. 48, long. 22, fell in with a French frigate of 36 guns and a corvette. An action took place between the Wolverine and the frigate, and after three broadsides the former struck. The corvette in the mean-time, chased the convoy, and captured two of them, and probably the rest. The brig Bee, of Pool, was the first one captured. (There was nothing new at Falmouth.)

PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA, April 30.

Yesterday arrived the ship Rufus, Hazard, from London. Sailed from the Downs the 19th of March last, brings nothing new. The Juliana for New-York was to sail the same week.

Captain H. however informs, that the boat which came out to take off his pilot, informed him that a vessel had just arrived at Deal, from the coast of France, having on board five or six French generals implicated in the conspiracy against Buonaparte, but who had fortunately effected their escape.

Captain Dashwood, arrived at Boston, from Bordeaux, informs, that Moreau, was still in confinement, and that the commander of the consular guards had also been arrested as an accomplice in the late conspiracy against the life of Buonaparte, and, after a summary trial, was immediately shot. Pichegru and Moreau, it was expected, would meet the same fate.

Governor Claiborne, of Louisiana, at first only received a temporary appointment. Letters from New-Orleans, now say, he is to be continued in the office.

Extract of a letter from the Cape of Good Hope, January 24.

"There is a French ship in the bay, (the Geographe) which has been three years in search of the ships of the celebrated Peyrouse. She found two men among the natives of New-Zealand, who had belonged to them, and were the only survivors out of the two ships, and have since died on board the Geographe. They informed, that one of the ships were burnt, and the other (Peyrouse's own ship) went to pieces.

May 2.

NAVIGATION OF THE SUSQUEHANNA.

Mr. Philip Jackson, of Kingston, has kept an account of the rafts, arks and boats, that have gone down the river this season, and has favoured us with the following statement:

	DOLLARS.
550 rafts, worth, on an average, 160 dollars, amount to	88,000
Many of the rafts were laden with wheat, pork, and other produce, to the amount, it is thought, of	2,000
89 arks, containing on an average, 1000 bushels wheat, to	89,000
19 boats, containing about 600 bushels wheat, or its value,	11,400
Total value,	190,400