

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J U N E 28, 1804.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

PARIS, April 7.

THE ex-general Charles Pichegru has hanged himself in prison. The following are the particulars of the suicide:

On the repeated requests he made, and on giving a word of honour that he would not make any attempt on his life, Pichegru had obtained the dismissal of his guards during the night. Every morning an attendant, in waiting, came to light his fire with a wattle of wood. Pichegru on one of the preceding evenings had laid aside a part of a faggot, by which he thought he might put an end to his existence. In the night, on the 5th instant, Pichegru, after having supped very heartily at eleven o'clock, went to bed about twelve. The attendant in waiting having retired, Pichegru drew from under his pillow, where he had placed it, a black handkerchief, which he tied round his neck; the piece of wood which he had kept in reserve, he then made use of to assist him in the project of suicide; he introduces this piece of wood into the two ends of the handkerchief where it was tied; he turns his little stick close to the glands of the neck as often as he thinks necessary to put a stop to respiration. When on the point of losing respiration, he draws the stick behind his ear, and throws himself on the same side of his head, in order to prevent his shifting. Pichegru, naturally fat, full of blood, suffocated by the full meal which he had just taken, and by the great pressure which he made, expired during the night.

Next day, in the morning, the attendant came to kindle his fire; he looked towards Pichegru's bed; he saw him, as he supposed, in a profound sleep, and retired to do his work. About half past seven the attendant again went up, again saw the head of Pichegru quietly resting on his pillow, and again went away, all fearing to interrupt his sleep. At nine o'clock, he went up a third time, and observed no alteration in the posture of the prisoner, who usually spoke to him when he was awake. The attendant began to be surpris'd at his sleeping so long; went up to the bed, and sees his face pale and distorted; he then moved the body and found it lifeless, and without motion. He immediately gives information to the gaoler, who sends that instant to Inform Thuriot, the judge and victor in this important trial. Eight physicians and surgeons were employed to draw up the *proces verbal* of the state in which the body was found, and this *proces verbal* and the corpse were brought before the criminal tribunal, on the 6th, about one o'clock in the afternoon.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, April 17.

The journey of madame Buonaparte, mother of the first consul, to Rome, at the present conjuncture, is a circumstance which may give rise to various conjectures, especially as she was attended with a strong guard, and seemed in such haste that she would not stop to receive the congratulations of the public functionaries.

According to letters from Paris, an address has been presented to the first consul by the conservative party, praying him not only to name his successor, but to take upon himself a higher title than he has assumed, and to make the same hereditary in his family.

The Gazette de France, of April 3d, says, "The public funds have risen since the day on which the first consul presented an address to the first consul, though the object of it is not exactly known."

The preparations for invading this country are now in such a state of forwardness, that the attempt may be expected to be made in a very short time.

It appears that Mr. Drake is not the only British envoy calumniated by the French. The Gazette de France, of April 3, contains the following article; to be dated from Carlsruhe:

It is not a matter of indifference to France to keep a pretty watchful eye on Sir Spencer Smith, (we were the gentleman alluded to, is only Mr. Smith) British envoy at Stuttgart. This minister daily receives foreigners, who come from the banks of the Rhine, and again dispatches them to different countries.

We are assured he has very large sums at his disposal, with which he pays secret agents, whom he sends to travel, variously disguised, along the banks of the Rhine, and who even pass that river in the most secret time to enter France, where these profligates can be employed in hatching plots.

April 20.

We this morning were favoured with a note from a gentleman who has just escaped from France, having left Dieppe on board an American ship homeward

bound on Friday last, and landed on the coast of Dorset from an open boat on Monday. He states, that the army encamped along the coast of Picardy have begun to manifest great discontent at the delay which has taken place respecting the invasion of this country, which they have been assured three several times in the course of six months, would certainly be put in execution at a given period. The middle of November was the first time mentioned, the last week of January the second, and the third the middle of March, since which time the activity of the preparations has considerably relaxed, except in what regards the exchanges of troops, above 20 battalions of whom, our informant assures us, were ordered into the interior during the period of his stay on the coast, which was about a fortnight. In regard to the rumours of insurrections, &c. in Paris, he says they arrive daily; and though perhaps altogether unfounded, they are generally considered as strongly expressive of the wishes of the people, which are every where explicitly in favour of a peace with England.

In the concurring opinion of many eminent medical men we have had an opportunity of consulting, there is in the *proces verbal* in the *Moniteur* internal evidence to prove that general Pichegru did not, and could not commit suicide. The *Moniteur* account alleges that he made use of a piece of wood, which "he turned as often as he thought necessary to put a stop to respiration." This piece of wood, therefore, acted in the nature of a tourniquet. Medical men know very well that to have procured death in that manner it would have been necessary to have increased the force and pressure of the tourniquet, and that the greatest degree of force would have been necessary just before the cessation of life. In the same manner, to exhaust an air pump requires an increasing degree of force as the pump becomes more and more exhausted. Now how can any man suppose for a moment that general Pichegru could apply this increasing force when his own strength must of necessity have been decreasing? And as the greatest exertion would have been necessary when he must have had the least, it remains for the *Moniteur* to shew how it was possible for him to deprive himself of life in the way described. Medical men, therefore, in London, whatever the physicians and surgeons of Paris may be forced to assert, have no difficulty in declaring openly, unequivocally and positively, that another man or men must have put general Pichegru to death.

April 21.

Our readers will remark, that no answer appears to have been returned by the Swedish ambassador to M. Talleyrand's letter, transmitting the correspondence attributed to Mr. Drake. We have reason to believe, from a circumstance which we shall state presently, that the Swedish government will not authorise its ambassador at Paris to imitate the conduct of most of the other ambassadors in that capital: The king of Sweden was at Baden when the duke D'Enghien was kidnapped: he was on a visit to his father-in-law, the elector of Baden. At the violation of the independence and territory of the elector by French troops, and at the seizure of the unfortunate prince, he expressed great indignation, and immediately sent over to his ambassador here, Baron De Silverheim, a protest, couched in very strong and manly terms, against that infamous and barbarous transaction. The Swedish ambassador has received directions to deliver copies of it to all the foreign ambassadors at the court of London, and we hope to be able to lay it before our readers to-morrow or next day. We understand that it is of considerable length. This protest does the greatest honour to his Swedish majesty.

Yesterday morning, Mr. Sparrow, the messenger, arrived with dispatches from the courts of Vienna and Munich. We understand that he brings advice of Mr. Drake being about to return to Britain from the latter place.

It was last night reported at the west end of the town, that Mr. Drake has been given up by the elector of Bavaria, and is now a prisoner in France. We hope this statement is incorrect.

The report was again rumoured yesterday of an insurrection having taken place in Paris, in which the chief consul is said to have lost his life. It was bro't from Morlaix in a ship that left that port on Thursday last. It is certainly premature.

By the Hamburg mail which arrived yesterday, we learn, that a great part of Switzerland is in a state of insurrection against the constituted authorities. The absence of the French troops was made the signal of revolt. In the cantons of Bern, Soleure, Argau, Freyburg, &c. the temerity of the insurgents has reached the highest pitch. They every where prevent the people from taking the oath of allegiance to the new constitution. In the night of the 28th ult. some of the disaffected set fire to the castle of Wadensweel, on the lake of Zurich; and the last letters state, that the landanman, unable to resist the torrent, had solicited the return of the French army.

BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS, April 16.

Mr. Drake's supposed Correspondence.

Lord Morpeth said, that he trusted the house would excuse him for deviating a little from the rules of debate, and particularly as the subject upon which he would occupy a small portion of its time, was one in which the honor and character of the country were materially involved. He alluded to the foul imputation that had been endeavoured to be cast on the government and its representative, by a recent publication in a French official paper. To the circumstance of that transaction, he thought it beneath him to advert, as long as they had been confined to the foul and malignant pages of the *Moniteur*; and while they only tended to demonstrate the rancour of the French government, he thought it was the best and most dignified course to treat them with silent scorn. But the papers purporting to be a correspondence between the British envoy extraordinary at Munich, and a person residing at Paris, have been officially communicated by the French minister to the different ambassadors in that city, and the honour of the nation has been impeached upon substantiated facts, improbable in their nature, unproved, and, he confidently trusted, not to be proved. To those communications, acknowledgments had been made, of some adverstity in their tenor, but most of them certainly adopting and sanctioning, in a greater or lesser degree, the foul reproaches that had been cast on the British character; and in the degraded state in which the greater part of the courts of Europe was placed, the representative of the court of Russia was the only one of the diplomatic body who did in his answer express any doubt of the fact. Some of the ambassadors to whom that communication was made did certainly go to very extraordinary lengths in their replies to the French minister, and such as he should hope would be found to deserve the censure of the different powers they represent. He particularly alluded to the answer of the representative of a power who sprung from the same source with ourselves, whose language was the same, and whose interests, he trusted, were not opposed to each other. (A loud cry of hear! hear!) He was sorry to see sentiments so derogatory from the honour of the British character, received with such pliant facility, by the resident of a power that should have known how to appreciate our national character, in a more friendly and favourable way. He had no motion to make, but he thought it incumbent on ministers, either to disavow or exculpate Mr. Drake, and to prove to Europe and to the world, that they have not "pointed the dagger of the assassin."

The chancellor of the exchequer—"Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my unfeigned obligations to the noble lord for affording to his majesty's ministers an opportunity of repelling the foulest and most infamous charge that has ever proceeded from a government claiming to be considered as part of the civilized world; a charge the most unfounded and diabolical, urged by a government the most sanguinary and tyrannical, for the sole purpose, I implicitly believe, of giving a colour to the commission of crimes the most heinous and atrocious that have ever disgraced and blackened human nature. As to the imputation that the authors and perpetrators of that foul crime have attempted to throw on his majesty's government, it is almost beneath their dignity to condescend to refute it; but I think it my duty to state to this house, and to the civilized world, that no authority has been given, that no instructions have been transmitted to the British minister at the court of Munich, to engage in or undertake any thing that was not strictly consistent with the most scrupulous observance of the rights of nations, and what perhaps is paramount to them, the duties of humanity. After having said this much, I hope it will not be expected of me that I should say any thing more in reply to that most false, scandalous and malignant imputation. As to the correspondence to which the noble lord has alluded, it is impossible for me to enter upon that subject, until some communication shall have been received from the honourable person who has been so infamously attacked in it—a gentleman of whose character I, perhaps, think as highly, and am certainly as solicitous as the noble lord, or any one in the kingdom can be. I have perfect confidence, that the more the particulars of his conduct are inquired into, the more apparent will be the propriety of it, and the vileness and falsehood of that (as I have the best grounds to suppose) most impudent and infamous fabrication. As soon as his majesty's government shall have received communications they expect from Mr. Drake, the noble lord may be assured they will not fail to adopt the most effectual measures for asserting and maintaining the honour of the country. I must again express my obligations to the noble lord, for affording me an opportunity of dispelling the anxiety of the country upon a subject, the honour of its representative, for which they entertain all that laudable jealousy that befits a great and high-minded nation.