

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, F E B R U A R Y 27, 1806.

Maryland Gazette.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, February 27, 1806.

Law of the state of Delaware.

An Act to change the name of Duck-Creek, Cross Roads, to Smyrna.

BE it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the state of Delaware, in general assembly met, that the village situate in Duck-Creek hundred, in Kent county, now called and known by the name of Duck-Creek, Cross Roads, shall, from and after the passing of this act, be called and known by the name of Smyrna, and that all the acts of the general assembly of this state, deeds, and other instruments of writings, in which Duck-Creek, Cross Roads, is named, shall be construed and taken to relate to the said village called Smyrna. And that in all legal proceedings which may have relation to the said village, or in which it may hereafter be necessary to use the name of the same, it shall be called Smyrna instead of Duck-Creek, Cross Roads.

Passed at Dover, Jan. 16, 1806.

THO. LAWS, Speaker
of the house of representatives.

JAMES SYKES, Speaker
of the senate.

From the New-York Commercial Advertiser.

An error corrected.—From the following letter, it appears that the communication in this paper of the 31st ult. stating that an attempt had been made to assassinate Thomas Paine, is altogether incorrect. We have only to remark that as this letter was written in the neighbourhood of Paine, we give it the fullest credit.

New-Rochelle, Feb. 3, 1806.

Mr. Lewis,

I observed in your paper, the Spectator, under date of the 31st ult. a paragraph, communicating that an attempt was made on Christmas eve last, to assassinate Thomas Paine, while his two servants were from home.

Considering that reports of this nature must tend to injure the reputation of the place, I take the liberty to declare the communication untrue. The following you may depend on as facts:

On Christmas eve, while a mulatto woman, the only servant in Paine's employ, was from home, and while a young man of the neighbourhood was sitting with Paine, and nearest to the window, a gun was discharged under or near the window; the wadding of paper, without ball or shot, only entered in an oblique direction into the board or siding of the house, but did not injure the plastering inside. Several days after, perhaps ten or twelve, a man who had lived with Paine during the summer, was apprehended upon the oath of Paine, as the person suspected, and is held to bail.

The above can be proved by a number of respectable persons, who have since viewed the premises.

A New-Rochelle Subscriber.

Extraordinary mission.

The reports, which were in circulation a few days since, of the appointment of col. Burr, as minister and envoy to the courts of St. James and St. Cloud, are now confirmed. Letters were received in town, last evening, from Washington, dated on the 31st ult. which corroborate this extraordinary circumstance.

[Boston paper.]

The honourable Aaron Burr, late Vice-President of the United States, arrived at the seat of government on Sunday.

The New-York papers mention this gentleman as our minister extraordinary to the court of St. James, and that he will sail from that port in the United States brig Hornet, capt. Chauncey, immediately.

Col. Burr was on a tour to the south, had arrived at George-town, S.C. on the 30th ult. and on the 16th inst. he is at Washington. At least this is our information. We therefore think it probable government has selected this gentleman for the mission.

[Washington Federalist.]

There has been no formal answer to the remonstrance of our minister at the court of Great-Britain. Neither have the differences between the two governments been settled, as mentioned in several papers at a distance from the seat of government. The receipt of the remonstrance is acknowledged in a note to Mr. Munroe, in which it is stated, that it will require time to consider the principles involved therein, and requesting our minister not to construe this delay into a neglect. This information we had from unquestionable authority.

[Ibid.]

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Lancaster to his friend in Philadelphia, dated February 17.

"A circumstance of some great consequence has taken place with us to-day. Mr. Dickson, editor of the Lancaster Intelligencer, in his last paper, stated, the governor and his secretaries had been endeavouring to corrupt Mr. Wertz, a senator, with a promise of the offices of Bedford county. A bill was found by the grand jury, who were then sitting, against him for a libel. On Saturday morning the trial came on and continued until Sunday evening, when the jury went out and did not agree until near 11 o'clock this morning. The verdict was guilty, and the sentence of the court three months imprisonment and 500 dollars fine. He was sent immediately to jail. The grand jury were unanimous, although they were about divided as to politics. The petit jury were also about equally divided in political sentiment."

The merchants of this city have laid before the President a very able petition, praying for the recall of general Armstrong, our minister at the court of St. Cloud. The merchants merit applause for this judicious and spirited measure. In the case of Nicklin and Griffith, the conduct of gen. Armstrong was every thing that it ought not to be. We hope and trust that he will be recalled. [American Citizen.]

The Prince of Auersberg, who took Munich's word of honour that the preliminaries of peace had been signed, and who defisted, in consequence, from executing his orders to destroy the bridges in the neighbourhood of Vienna, has been sent to prison.

[London paper.]

The board of admiralty have at length preferred a charge against rear-adm. Sir R. Calder, on the ground of "not having done his utmost to bring the enemy to a renewal of the action, on the second day off Cadiz." Mr. Erskine is retained in the defence of Sir Robert Calder. [Ibid.]

Capt. Ingraham, arrived at Charleston, states, that the Rochefort squadron sailed from Teneriffe on the 17th November, and nothing had been heard of them when he sailed, (28th Dec.)

Admiral Duckworth, with 5 sail of the line and 2 frigates, arrived off the island on the 10th Dec. and not finding the French fleet there, sailed again in pursuit of them.

Important discovery.—A gentleman in England has discovered a method by which to render sail cloth incorruptible by what is called in nautical language *mildew*. He intends taking out a patent for it in that country, and a friend contemplates taking out in this.

NEW-YORK, February 18.

It will be seen, by reading the news under this day's marine head, and the extracts from Antigua papers, that there is now no doubt of a French squadron being in the West-Indies—and that a British Squadron of 7 sail of the line, under the command of Admiral Duckworth, were in close pursuit of them.

Arrived, brig Freeman, Noire, of New-Haven, in 14 days from St. Croix. Capt. Norie, on the 4th February, in Sail-Rock Passage, saw eight ships of war, standing to the leeward, supposed to be a British squadron, which had just got under way, from the island of St. John's, (where capt. N. saw them) in pursuit of a French squadron that they had heard of.

Also the schooner John, Van Schoyck, of Hudson, in 24 days from Antigua. Four days before the sailing of the John, a French fleet of five sail of the line, had been seen under the lee of Montserrat, steering for Baffeterre Roads. Two days after a British fleet of 7 sail, were seen under the lee of Antigua, supposed to be in chase of the French, which was said to be the Rochefort squadron. There is now, no doubt, of a French squadron being in the West-Indies.

By the schooner John, from Antigua, the editors of the New-York Gazette received papers, from which the following interesting articles are extracted:

St. John's, (Antigua) Jan. 14.

On Saturday arrived off this harbour, under convoy of his majesty's ship Fishguard, that part of the Cork fleet bound to Jamaica, and proceeded immediately; at the same time his majesty's ship Northumberland, from whence admiral Cochrane landed at English harbour.

January 16.

Vice-admiral Duckworth, and rear-admiral Louis, with 5 ships of the line, arrived at Barbadoes a few days past. The Sirius frigate being in lat. 40, fell in with 18 ships of war belonging to the enemy, and immediately halted to vice-admiral Collingwood with the intelligence, who dispatched admirals Duckworth and Louis in pursuit of them. Off the Cape-de-Verde

islands, they chased 6 sail of the enemy's line, supposed to be a part of the force above-mentioned, and suspecting the remainder might be destined to the West-Indies, made the bell of their way to Barbadoes.

January 21.

His majesty's brig Hart, which arrived at English Harbour on Saturday evening last, has brought the following intelligence:

On the 13th inst. to windward of Marigalante, the Unicorn boarded an American, who informed him that 2 days before, when he was in lat. 17, long. 59, he fell in with 8 sail of the enemy's ships and a brig, steering westward, and that he was so close as to be certain they were all two-deckers.

On Sunday last the British Squadron, under the command of admiral Duckworth, amounting to seven sail of the line, was discovered from the Shirley Heights, standing to the westward. And on Monday, six sail of the line, one of which bore a blue flag on her mizentopgallantmast-head, were seen holding their course towards St. Kitts.

If the above reports be authentic, there can be little doubt that our gallant admiral is in pursuit of the enemy's fleet; but, we fear, too far astern to justify a strong hope of his being fortunate enough to overtake them.

Extract of a letter from a respectable house in Havana, to a gentleman in this city, dated January 27th, 1806.

"Yesterday morning three gun-boats, from this port, re-took 18 sail of coast convoy, which had been taken by an English brig and schooner. They also very much damaged the brig and schooner, and killed and wounded several of their crews; but, after a desperate action of four hours, both escaped."

CHARLESTON, February 10.

The brig Mary and Rachel, capt. Peterson, has arrived at Savannah from Barbadoes. Previous to capt. Peterson's sailing admiral Duckworth had arrived there with six sail of the line, and put to sea again in three days, for the purpose; it was believed, of blockading Martinique, where the Rochefort Squadron were supposed to have arrived.

February 13.

Another French Fleet out.

The British frigate Sea-Horse, arrived at Kingstown on the 18th ult. dispatched from lord Collingwood, off Cadiz, with intelligence that eighteen French line of battle ships, supposed to be from Brest, had been seen steering west. This news had excited considerable alarm in Jamaica, and it was expected that martial law would be proclaimed in a few days.

A gentleman who came passenger in the schooner Margaret, from the River Plate, informs, that about five weeks ago, he was at Fernando de Noronha, in lat. 24, south, that he there saw the governor of that place, who had just arrived from Pernambuco, on the coast of Brazil, who stated, that about a fortnight before, an English fleet, composed of two sail of the line, several frigates, and sixty transports, had been seen off that coast; that it was also said to be a secret expedition which had sailed from England under sir Home Popham, and it was believed that it was on its way to enter the river Plate, with an intention to attack Nombre de Dios. Pernambuco is in lat. 8, south, and the River Plate in 35, south.

February 14.

No French force had arrived at Martinico when capt. Campbell left St. Pierre's, 14 days since. Reports were in circulation that a fleet had sailed from France, destined for the French West-Indies, but no accounts were received of them.

A gentleman who left Point Petre, (Guad.) on the 23d ult. in the brig Amity, capt. Dunlap, for Savannah, and touched at St. Thomas, from which place he sailed on the 31st ult. has furnished us with the following intelligence:—In passing the islands of Nevis and St. Kitt's, on the 26th ult. he counted nine sail of the line and one frigate, under British colours, being at anchor under the batteries, which was supposed to be the fleets of admirals Cochrane and Duckworth, united. On his arrival at St. Thomas, he was informed by the captain of an American vessel, who arrived the day before from the city of St. Domingo, that on the 25th ult. in the Mona Passage, he was boarded by a French squadron of 10 sail of the line and 10 frigates, by whom they were detained two hours. The fleet was understood to be commanded by admiral Gantheaume. This intelligence was confirmed by another vessel which arrived at St. Thomas, also from the city of St. Domingo, the captain of which stated, that in coming out of that port he passed the same French fleet of 10 sail of the line and 10 frigates, then standing in for that place.

This intelligence confirms the account from Jamaica, of a French fleet being at sea. The gentleman who furnishes it, arrived at this port on Wednesday