

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 1807.

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ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, April 9, 1807.

ILLNESS OF BUONAPARTE.

THE London Sunday Review of Jan. 25, says—
"Thro' an authentic channel, we have received advice that Buonaparte's health has been so much impaired by the fatigue and anxiety to which he has of late been exposed, as to impel his medical attendants with the most serious apprehensions for his safety. He has for sometime laboured under a dropsical complaint; and contrary to the advice of his physicians, persists in a profuse use of opium. He also drinks excessive quantities of coffee, without either sugar or cream; a practice which is supposed to have contributed to that languor and debility which occasionally oppresses him in such a degree, as to render him incapable of any ordinary exertion."

The following paragraphs are extracted from London articles received by the Liverpool Packet.—[N. T. G.]

Still are we without any official advices from the continent.—Yet accounts continue to be received from various parts of successes of the Russians after the 26th of December.—One letter from a house in Germany, dated the 23d ult. states, "that the French and nine generals in the battles immediately subsequent to that of the 26th December, but not a word more do they mention of their loss. Davoust attacked the centre of the Russian army, on which this division reared fighting; but they bro't both their wings to bear on Davoust's rear, and ultimately defeated him with great loss." Another letter says, that it was on the 8th December, "that the fortune of war changed in favour of the Russian army, and continued decided so till the 30th, the date of the last dispatches from the scene of action, which at that time had removed nearer Warsaw, to which city the French had retreated, after suffering repeated defeats."

General Menstein, the commander of Dantzic, has published a bulletin, announcing intelligence from Koningsberg, of another total defeat of the French by the Russians, after fighting from the 27th to the 30th December.—The editor of the French paper *Altona*, also received a letter containing the particulars of the above defeat; but the French minister listed that the whole was a falsehood, and had it suppressed.—According to this letter, marshal Kaminsky, by a masterly manœuvre with the centre and right wing of the Russian army is said to have turned and surrounded three corps of the French army, namely those of Davoust, Ney, and Soult; to have killed upwards of 40,000, and taken 20,000 prisoners among the latter is said to be Davoust himself.

Dispatches were also received on Friday from Mr. Blair, which intimate that a victory had been gained by the Russians after the 26th. The Russian general is said to have been bought by the French, and to have been detected by the general in chief, Kaminsky, when on the point of leaving to the French the sole of the Russian magazines, by withdrawing the guard. Kaminsky, it is said, took his sword from him with his own hands, and sent him in irons to St. Petersburg, and the French, when they made their attack, experienced the most formidable resistance, which ended in a complete defeat. Great disorder is said to have prevailed in the French army, particularly amongst the emperor's guards, who insisted on winter quarters, and of five of the columns employed in attack, three were defeated, and one had refused advance.

By the mail from Hufum, which arrived on Friday, and brought letters from Hamburg to the 23d, accounts from Warsaw of the 8th, the fact, that the French have sustained a signal defeat in Poland, is farther confirmed. All the accounts published in the Hamburg papers are, as might be supposed, entirely silent as to any defeat of the French; but a master of a Danish vessel which arrived on Friday in the river, has affirmed, that before he sailed on Ellsneur on the 21st, he saw a printed official account of the particulars of the victory obtained by the Russians. It was shewn to him by the commandant of the place, and agrees with the substance of the reports which have already appeared. After the arrival of the mail on Friday, a note, of which the following is a copy, was circulated among the military officers:

January 30.—Various accounts received this morning confirm the defeat of the French at Ostrolenka, the official details are not yet arrived. Letters from Dantzick mention, that 40,000 French prisoners were marched into Koningsberg. Buonaparte was at Warsaw on the 8th of January; but the Russians crossed the Vistula, and an engagement took place on the 7th of January at Szakahow, on the banks of the Posen, which is said to have terminated to the disadvantage of the French."

PENNSYLVANIA AFFAIRS.

The committee of inquiry into the governor's conduct made report this morning—the charges are,

1. The use of the fac simile.
2. The appointment of Dr. Buchanan.
3. The removal of Dr. Reynolds.
4. The overtures made to Duane to withdraw a criminal prosecution against him, on condition that he would discontinue his suits against J. B. McKean and others.
5. Setting aside the election of Wolbert, for which the committee think the governor had not a shadow of cause.
6. Sending a blank commission to be filled up by J. B. McKean, to examine witnesses respecting the contested election of sheriff.
7. Issuing a warrant for the arrest of Cabrera, and afterwards dispensing with the rules of the prison with respect to him.

[United States' Gazette.]

Silk Worms.

It is strongly recommended to the overseers, directors and managers, of the Poor-Houses in the United States, to plant the white Italian mulberry tree in abundance round their grounds. This tree affords the proper food of the silk-worm. The raising of silk-worms, and the production of silk, will afford an early and profitable employment to the aged, the infirm, the sickly, the weak, the young and the lame. The tree will grow to the size of six inches in diameter, from the seed, in seven years, and the wood is one of the most valuable, for posts, ship-building, and other useful purposes. [Press.]

American Brewing.

It is established by fair and successful experiments, that a bright, pale and delightful ale, can be manufactured from the Indian corn, (or maize) of the U. States. These trials have been actually made by a capital brewing house of this city. Our ability to supply ourselves with a most agreeable and wholesome malt liquor, from a never-failing and cheap raw material, unlimited in quantity, will render it perfectly easy to do, when we please, with much less foreign distilled spirits. These destroy our morals and injure our agriculture; while our own malt liquors, nourish us in health, and support the farmers and planters. Manufacturers have become a mine of riches to this country; and they are a mean in our hands to check the invaders of our neutral rights.—If they should continue to be invaders. [Press.]

General Miranda.

By a gentleman just arrived in this city from Trinidad, and whose information is entitled to the fullest credit, from his personal and particular acquaintance with the officers and other principal persons attached to the late expedition of Miranda, we have the following information: That general Miranda was at Trinidad when our informant left there—and that he was in daily expectation of receiving a reinforcement of between 8 and 10,000 men from England, under the order of gen. Tucker, and which were said to have sailed, but had been detained by adverse winds; that on the arrival of these troops Miranda would immediately undertake a second expedition against the Spanish dominions of South America—and that it was the concurrent opinion, of those qualified to form a correct one, that with this respectable force the general would be able to crown his enterprise with complete and speedy success. Miranda had been appointed to the rank of major-general by the English government. The failure of his late attempt to liberate his countrymen from Spanish oppression in that part of the world, was attributed wholly to the smallness of the forces with which it was attempted; as they did not, altogether, amount to 500 men.—Great numbers of the natives, and those friendly to his project had frequently joined the standard of Miranda, but could not be induced to continue their fidelity, as they could feel no certainty of protection from such a handful of men, against the troops and threatened vengeance of the Spanish government. [N. T. paper.]

A bill for abolishing the slave trade has passed the English house of lords. Vessels employed in that iniquitous traffic (so contrary to justice, humanity, and sound policy) must clear out from British ports for Africa previous to the first of May next, and complete their lading in Africa and their voyage from thence to the W. Indies previous to the first of Jan. 1808, after which period the trade becomes contrary law. An exception, however, is made in favour of cases where, by capture, loss of the vessel, or other unavoidable accident, (the proof to lie on the party) the completion of the voyage to the West-Indies within the time limited may have been prevented.

DIED, on the 15th ult. at the house of capt. Levi Palmer, of East-Haddam, (Connecticut,) widow MARY SPARROW, relict of the late N. Sparrow, of that town. The circumstances attending the death of this woman are deemed so important as to merit the notice of the public; and it is not improbable they will excite to astonishment the medical faculty, and prompt to industrious researches with a view to a correct elucidation of this singular medical phenomenon. She was corpulent to a very unusual degree: in her person and house-wifery she was very neat and tidy. She never had any children; and, during the greatest part of her life, had lived in circumstances of competence. For about one year previous to her decease, she had been troubled with a difficulty, in the œsophagus of swallowing; and when she swallowed, either solid or liquid substances, the effort was attended with an uneasy sensation. This difficulty of deglutition had increased for several of the last months of her life; and, during the same period, was often succeeded by retching, and a rejection of what she had swallowed. Medical aid, although faithfully administered, did not afford relief. On dissection, which was performed in the presence, and by the assistance, of Thomas Mosely, M. D. (late president of the Con. Med. Society) Doctors Augustus Mather, and his son, Ozias Mather; all of East-Haddam, and Robert Usher, of Chatham, the following was discovered:

On laying open the integuments, the stomach appeared considerably distended. On the left side, were several hydatides attached to the stomach on the outside, the contents of which were various. Of some they were thin and transparent; of others, oily and glutinous; and the matter contained in one was purulent. Some of these contents were foetid, whilst others were free from foetor. The largest hydatide contained a dark coloured water, about half a pint in quantity. A schirrous was formed upon and round the left orifice of the stomach, which extended to a considerable distance.—The stomach, on being laid open, was found to contain about a pint and an half of a yellowish, unctuous mucus, immersed in which were TWO BALLS OF HAIR—one about the size of a goose's, the other of a hen's egg. This hair, (some of which the writer of this article has seen) is of a brown colour, with rather a reddish cast resembling cattle's hair, is nearly of an equal length, (about two inches) and on being examined with a microscope, it evidently exhibits the radical, and the pointed end, common to hair of that description. In that portion of which the writer has seen, some few hairs were of a darker complexion than the generality of them. Whence it originated, or how it was conveyed into the stomach, in such a quantity, are questions which the writer will not attempt to answer. At first view, it may, perhaps, appear easy to the reader to solve these queries. But after maturely reflecting on the subject, difficulties will, probably, suggest themselves to his mind, which it will not be easy to obviate. It is, certainly, a very rare occurrence, and will, doubtless, give rise to different opinions among men of science.

Instances, something of a similar nature, are recorded by different writers. Ruysch mentions a tumour which was taken from a man's stomach that contained hair and teeth; which tumour he had preserved in his collection. Tumours similar to the last mentioned, have been found in the ovaria—and BAILLIE mentions one (among others) which he had himself discovered, containing hair mixed with a fatty substance, and the body of a tooth covered with the enamel. I find no mention of any tumour of this description, which did not contain a bony substance also, whether it was lodged in the stomach or ovarium. But in the instance here recorded, there appears to have been nothing of the kind. In this respect, so far as I am informed, it stands alone.

The fluid contents of the stomach, in which these extraordinary balls were immersed, on being exposed to the air for a short time, in a vessel in which it had been temporarily deposited for convenience, became a congealed mass, of nearly the consistence of tallow. Unfortunately this hair was distributed in different parcels to individuals, and was not accurately weighed. It is supposed, however, from weighing, as was judged, about one-third, that the whole, after it was dry, was six drachms.

The subject of this singular calamity, during her indisposition, I am informed, frequently mentioned that she distinctly perceived the motion of globular substances, or (as she expressed it) "balls," in her stomach; but never intimated any thing which gave rise to a belief that she had any suspicion of their nature. Her fears of dying, which were strong, seem to preclude all reasonable suspicion that she had designedly swallowed the hair which was found in her stomach after death. It is, indeed, hardly credible that she should. I have now communicated the case, faithfully, to the public, and shall leave it with them, without hazarding any conjectures of my own.