

# MARYLAND GAZETTE.

THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1808.

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ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, March 24, 1808.

## LAW OF THE UNION.

### AN ACT

For procuring an additional number of arms, and for the purchase of saltpetre and sulphur.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That a sum of money not exceeding three hundred thousand dollars, be, and the same is hereby appropriated, out of any monies in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of procuring by purchase, or causing to be manufactured within the United States, and under the direction of the president of the United States, an additional number of stands of arms, to be deposited in safe and suitable places. And for the purchase of saltpetre and sulphur, a sum not exceeding one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

[Approved and signed March 11, 1808.]

### CONGRESS.

The following message was received from the president of the United States, on Thursday last, and referred to a committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

I have heretofore communicated to congress the decrees of the government of France of November 21, 1806, and of Spain of February 19, 1807, with the orders of the British government of January and November 1807.

I now transmit a decree of the emperor of France of December 17, 1807, and a similar decree of the 3d of January, by his most catholic majesty. Although the decree of France has not been received by official communication, yet the different channels of promulgation through which the public are possessed of it, with the formal testimony furnished by the government of Spain in their decree leave us without a doubt that such an one has been issued. These decrees and orders taken together, want little of amounting to a declaration that every neutral vessel found on the high seas, whatsoever be her cargo, and whatsoever foreign port be that of her departure or destination, shall be deemed lawful prize: and they prove more and more the expediency of retaining our vessels, our seamen and property, within our own harbours, until the dangers to which they are exposed can be removed or lessened.

TH: JEFFERSON.

March 17, 1808.

Arrived at New-York, ship Able Matilda, Hilliard, 42 days from Gibraltar, with her outward cargo. She was bound to Barcelona.

About the 25th January the governor of Gibraltar had declined granting permission for vessels with colonial produce bound up the Mediterranean, to proceed on their voyage, although having stopped at Gibraltar in consequence of having been warned, or even to grant permission to those vessels to return to America without first going to England to pay a duty on their cargoes. Frequent petitions had been made by the masters and supercargoes of the vessels then in Gibraltar for clearances, without effect; and it was generally feared that he would not clear any vessels with colonial produce for any other place except England, from whatever cause they might have touched at Gibraltar. Several were fortunate enough to get their clearances for America previous to the governor's coming to that determination.

Jan. 23, arrived in Gibraltar 24 large transports, full of troops, being part of 62 sail that left England with troops on a private expedition. Accounts were received in Gibraltar, that some of the other 38 sail had put back in distress; but it was much feared that part of them had been captured by a French Squadron of four sail of the line that had lately slipped out from Rochefort. In Gibraltar the object of the expedition is expected to be to take possession of Ceuta. From the 8th to the 27th January, the Spaniards boats carried into Algiers 12 sail of the American, most of which were taken in under the French and Spanish decrees. None were condemned on the 28th that had been taken in on the new principle, but it was expected all would be indiscriminately; the batteries very frequently firing a salute on the arrival of a prize, which they seldom do except in the case of a good prize.

The marine militia bill reported some days ago in the Senate U. S. has been postponed till next December.

The duke of Anguilla, the new governor of Jamaica, arrived at that island on the 12th of last month.

Arrived at Baltimore, ship Oriental, Well, 35 days from the Straits of Gibraltar. The Oriental left Cape Henry, January 4, bound up the Mediterranean. On the 10th Feb. between Capes Spartel and Trafalgar, was boarded by the British ship, Zealous, of 74 guns, capt. Pierrepont, who endorsed the registers, warning him not to go into the Mediterranean, except to Gibraltar or Malta. Capt. P. offered to supply the Oriental with any thing she might be in need of.

The night before, he met Gr. Richard Strachan, going into the Straits with seven sail of the line and two frigates in search of the Rochefort Squadron. The Oriental parted from the Zealous the morning of the 11th of Feb. the fleet off Cadiz then in sight, consisting of ten sail of the line, under rear admiral Forvis, the French and Spanish fleet still in port amounting to 12 sail of the line. About ten days before she met the 74, was boarded by a French gun-brig under French colours, supposed to be a Guernsey privateer—they examined particularly to ascertain whether the ship's papers were endorsed or not, and finding they were not, suffered her to proceed, leaving the endorsement to the men of war, and to take them afterwards.

By the articles of capitulation of the island of Madeira, it is ceded to the English, to be restored to the prince regent of Portugal, his heirs, or successors, upon their restoration to its sovereignty and emancipation from French thraldom. Lieut. gen. W. C. Beresford is appointed lieut. of the island by the British king.

The brig Orlando, captain Beaty, from Lisbon, via Madeira, whose arrival we mentioned yesterday, has brought out dispatches from gen. Armstrong, our minister at Paris, to the secretary of state. The passage of the brig from Lisbon to Madeira was performed in 14 days, and from Madeira home in 33.

Capt. Beaty informs of a decree of the French emperor, which he had seen and read in Lisbon, previous to his sailing, but had not procured a copy, in which "the house of Braganza is declared to be no more," and PORTUGAL declared to be a "province of France." [American.]

The French cruiser La Vengeance, sailed from Guadaloupe, armed with 18 guns, and a long 24 pounder, fell in with an English frigate, which sunk her with one broadside.

The commander of the Vengeance finding himself closely pursued by the English frigate, endeavoured to escape; and used the 24 pounder as a stern chase. The English captain continued the pursuit without firing a gun, until, coming to close quarters, the Frenchmen attempted to board, when a broadside was discharged which sent them all to the bottom. Of 180 men of which the crew was composed, not one was saved.

Capt. Reiner, of the Caroline frigate, in a letter to Sir Edward Pellew, dated Malacca roads, Feb. 25, 1807, states, that on the 27th of January, he captured, after a severe action, the Spanish ship St. Raphael (or Pallas,) a Spanish register ship belonging to the royal company of the Philippines, mounting 16 guns and 97 men, commanded by Don Juan Baptista Monteverde, having on board upwards of 500,000 Spanish dollars, and 1700 quintals of copper, besides a valuable cargo. She was from Lima bound to Manilla. She had 37 men killed and wounded before she struck.

The members of both branches of the legislature of Kentucky, have unanimously recommended James Madison as president of the U. States.

Extract of a letter from Barbadoes, dated the 20th February, received by the brig Adeline, Woodward, arrived at Alexandria.

"Martinique is closely blockaded by five sail of the line and three frigates, under admiral Cochrane; Admiral Duckworth joined him a few days ago, with 5 sail of the line and proceeded to St. Domingo, in pursuit of 6 sail of French ships of the line, from Rochefort or Brest. If they should not find them at St. Domingo, they will steer for the United States.

"Floor continues at 20 dolls, but provisions will now fall, on account of the safe arrival of 80 sail of the Cork fleet, which came in last evening."

A few days since, (says a New-Orleans paper of the 13th ult.) a bill was introduced into the lower house of the legislature of this territory, the object of which is to prevent the sale of lands or tenements, goods or chattels, for any amount above 100 dollars, on writs of execution, during the continuance of the embargo. The bill was twice read and referred to a committee of the whole on Monday next.

A petition is now in circulation against the passage of the bill, and we understand has already obtained the signatures of a great proportion of the most respectable inhabitants of the city.

NEW-ORLEANS, Feb. 19.

Off the bar, H. B. M. sloop Solar, capt. Clements, wants water, came to under American colours, but when he saw the pilots near, he hoisted the English flag—he wants a pilot to conduct him to the Lake Barrataria, there to get fresh provisions, after which he writes he will return the pilot, and sail for Jamaica—the sloop has sixteen guns, only, but is full-manned for twenty, and is pierced for that number.

WILMINGTON, N. C. March 1.

Captain Eldridge, of the schooner Beley, who left Barbadoes Feb. 5th, informs, that an admiral of the blue had arrived there with 17 sail of the line for the purpose of attacking Martinico, which he immediately declared in a state of blockade, and had taken and sent to Barbadoes several vessels attempting to go in. Off St. Thomas capt. E. was boarded by a British sloop of war and treated politely, who informed that he was in pursuit of a French privateer; that there were four French and Spanish privateers in and about Sail Rock passage, taking all American vessels going to or coming from Porto-Rico, and advised him to keep well to the windward side of the passage.

NORFOLK, March 14.

On Saturday evening a British fleet of five sail of the line and a frigate, anchored off our capes, consisting of the

Royal George, of	100 guns,
Neptune,	98.
Temeraire,	98.
Dragon,	80.
Tonnant,	80.
Eurydice,	32.

Under the command of Sir John Thomas Duckworth, This fleet sailed from England on the 17th of Jan. His Britannic majesty's consul communicated to the editor of this paper the following circumstances: that this fleet sailed in pursuit of the Rochefort Squadron, which had escaped from that port, composed of the following ships—

Majestique,	120 guns
Lys,	74.
Ajax,	80.
Suffrein,	74.
Magnanime,	74.
Jemappe,	74.
Flora,	24.
Surveillant brig:	

Admiral Duckworth steered first for Madeira, near which island he spoke the British frigate Comus, capt. Piercy, who informed him that he had been chased a few days before by a French line of battle ship and frigate, had nearly been captured. Admiral D. then proceeded to the West-Indies, from whence he came to our capes. The consul further informed us that Sir John Duckworth has forwarded to him a dispatch for Mr. Rose, at Washington, in which he states (we understand from the consul) that the appearance of his fleet so unexpectedly at this juncture, may excite some sensation in the American government, and requests that Mr. Rose would immediately communicate to our government the cause of his coming upon this coast.

These are all the particulars which we are informed of from an authentic source. Report says, and is proceeding from a British officer, that there are 3000 troops on board this fleet. Col. Hamilton was asked if there were any troops on board, he replied not to his knowledge. The number however far exceeds what could be carried in that number of ships.

The British ships were yesterday anchored to the southward of the capes.

The Rochefort fleet may probably pay a visit to the Brazils, where they might have effected something if the British admiral had not sent four sail of the line with the Portuguese fleet.

We understand that admiral Duckworth stated in a letter to col. Hamilton, that he should not remain more than forty-eight hours off our capes.

YORK, (Penn.) March 12.

On Thursday last a ball was extracted from the leg of JACOB BARNITZ, Esq; register and recorder of this county, which was received at the taking of Fort Washington in 1776.

The ball has lost but 6 grains of its original weight; an ounce, it is much flattened, and was so firmly wedged into the large bone below the knee, as to have rendered an extraction impracticable, before the part of the bone around it had become entirely carious and was ejected through a large incision on the top of the leg. The sufferings of the patient have been great ever since receiving the wound, and for some length of time almost insupportable.

The prospect is, however, at present much changed. And while his family and friends cherish the hope of seeing him freed from the long extended chain of weakness which for 30 years he has languished in, the public anticipate with pleasure the restoration of an able officer, and patriot of SEVENTY-SIX.