

New-York, Oct. 1.

ONE DAY LATER.

The arrival at this port last evening of the brig Minerva, Noble, from Liverpool, has put the editor of the Mercantile Advertiser in possession of the London Traveller of August 5th, one day later than our previous advices. Like the paper which preceded, it is occupied with the affairs of Spain; and our present selections, like the former, are therefore necessarily confined to that subject almost exclusively.

VALDEVICAS, July 22.

OUR head quarters are at Manzanal, and the advanced guard has arrived at Altorga, where it remains completely on the alert.

Seignor Cuesta has suddenly evacuated Benevento, and marched for Leon. In consequence of dispatches taken by a serjeant of the regiment of Saragozza, from a French aid-de-camp, whom he apprehended in the disguise of a Spanish postillion, and which dispatches were transmitted to Seignor Cuesta, who arrived with them at ten o'clock at night; he dismissed the peasantry belonging to his arms, ordered the cavalry to mount, and with them and the flying artillery, he marched off suddenly at 12 at night, saying, "Let those who are able and willing follow me." This precipitate departure has given rise to various speculations. There are some who from the intelligence received yesterday, predict some heroic achievement as the issue of the plan which he had so suddenly adopted.

LONDON, August 5.

The principal intelligence we have this day to communicate, respecting the state of affairs in Spain, consists of extracts from the Corunna Diary, a journal received to the 31st ult. with some additional particulars contained in private letters which reach to the same date.

We confess our inability to account for the conduct of Cuesta, his quick and even precipitate retreat after the battle of the 14th ult. It would seem that he must have been very warmly pressed and overpowered by a very superior force to justify his leaving the mass of his infantry to disperse, and to trust to themselves for safety, rather than continue with them and support them with his cavalry and artillery. There are accounts, which represent Cuesta's conduct as regulated by the best motives of prudence, and as by no means calculated to damp the prospect of final success. It may be deemed consistent with the precautions which the supreme junta so wisely framed, that a general engagement should be avoided as much as possible. The Spaniards never considered the affair at the Rio del Seco a defeat, though it was immediately followed by a retreat to Benevento. The following letter shows the light in which they viewed that event:—

ASTORGA, July 19.

"The battle of the 14th was as glorious for our army as that of Eras for the Arragonese, and as the conflict in the neighbourhood of Cordova was for the Andalusians. With an inferior force, and notwithstanding the advantage the enemy possessed in his numerous and excellent cavalry, he was so worsted and his troops so dispersed, that it was with difficulty he could reassemble them. He left from 6000 to 7000 men, and the horses, of which the French had robbed the stables of the palace, those of Godoy, and other inhabitants of Spain, were killed in great numbers. The newly raised conscripts, it is true, were distrusted by some persons, but that did not influence the retreat of our army so much as to spare the blood of our valiant veterans. Our able general well knew that the total destruction of the French army would have cost much blood, from the destruction which the French cavalry would make; and therefore it was determined to defer giving them a decisive battle, and because we have the power of depriving them of their superiority in this respect. Our loss has been small, and of little consideration, compared to that of the enemy, and numbers of our men, whom we supposed to have been killed or taken prisoners, are continually coming in. Our whole troops desire anxiously to fight against the French, and we trust that our generals will not long delay giving them that satisfaction."

A letter from Corunna says, that if Cuesta had, in the battle of the 14th, brought forward his cavalry, when repeatedly called on to do so, in the same manner that the brave general Blake did, the victory of the patriots would have been certain. This insinuation against Cuesta is inserted in a Corunna paper of the 27th; and that they all speak of Blake in terms of the highest applause. In the same paper it appears, that an attempt has been made by Bessieres to tamper with general Blake, after the manner which has been so frequently successful with the French generals. In this instance it has happily failed. General Blake's answer is published. He says, that nothing shall detach him from the service of his lawful sovereign, Ferdinand the VIIth, or failing him, of the next in blood of the Bourbon race; and failing them all, that he shall hold himself bound to serve such monarch only as shall be freely chosen by a legitimate Cortez, duly elected, representing the Spanish people.

Whatever may have been the motives by which Cuesta was influenced, it is impossible to contemplate the consequences that may result from this extraordinary step, without some alarm. Marshal Bessieres is stated to have advanced to Zamora, a town upon the Douro, near the confines of Portugal, and it is not

improbable that he is now hastening to the relief of Junot.

The French are aware of the desperate situation of Junot, and it is not improbable that some desperate effort may be made to extricate him. We find from the Corunna Gazette, that marshal Bessieres marched out of Benevento on the evening of the 20th, with from ten to 12,000 men: The route he took is not mentioned; but arduous as the undertaking may appear, it is, however, possible that he may have directed his march towards Portugal, from the frontiers of which he is not quite 100 miles. He would naturally calculate on meeting no other opposition in that country than what might be expected from the disarmed and panic struck inhabitants. The fate of Portugal, therefore, for the present, depends on the celerity and decisive nature of Sir Arthur Wellesley's movements and operations. If he forces Junot to a speedy capitulation, he will find little difficulty afterwards in overwhelming Bessiere's corps. Should he be fortunate enough to fall in with it. Should it, however, contrary to all rational supposition, effect a junction with the French troops at Lisbon, this united force would, we fear, prove too strong for the British expedition, even with all the assistance it might derive from the Portuguese. The detachments from the marines from Sir C. Cotton's squadron which landed at Figueira, amounted to upwards of 1000 men. Sir A. Wellesley, would, therefore, find himself at the head of nearly 12,000 of as well appointed troops as ever left his country.

A letter from very good authority at Corunna, dated the 31st ult. confirms the reports we have received as to the victories of the patriots in Valencia, Murcia, and Saragozza, at least so far as a repetition of those reports can be called a confirmation. This letter further adds, that an insurrection had taken place in Madrid on the 23d ult. This insurrection, which is said to be the result of an understanding with some part of the patriot force that was expected to arrive at Madrid in the course of that evening, must have been of a very hardy character, as Joseph Bonaparte, with a considerable force, is known to have reached that city on the 20th. The result of the insurrection is not stated, but there is too much reason to fear that it cannot have been favourable to the patriots.

The latest advices from Lisbon represent the situation of the inhabitants as truly deplorable. They are exposed to the vengeance of a suspicious and inexorable police. The discovery of any communication with the patriots, among whom are included all who reside beyond the range of the posts of Junot's army, is sufficient to bring upon the parties concerned in it the punishment of death. Such a few days ago was the fate of M. Da Horta Machado, a man of most respectable character, who formerly was minister from the Portuguese government to the court of St. Petersburg. The greatest efforts were making by Junot to increase his stock of provisions. With this view the inhabitants were exposed to continual domiciliary visits, and strong detachments were sent out in every direction, in search of every article of the kind.

Bonaparte has issued another decree at Bayonne, which was received in Holland on the 27th ult. directing that all American property seized under the decree of the 21st November should be immediately sold, and the proceeds paid into the Caisse d'Escomptes, there to remain until the final issue of the pending negotiation between France and America.

The following is an extract of a letter from an officer of rank in the British forces landed at Figueira, in Portugal, dated the 19th of July:—"Here I am, landed with a battalion of royal marines. The French are, I understand, advancing to attack the city of Coimbra about 21 miles from this place. They have only 4000 men, and the Portuguese who defend it are nearly 18,000 of all sorts, regulars and irregulars. Coimbra is an amazing strong and well fortified city, so situated, that cannon can scarcely be brought to act against it with any prospect of success. We are all ready to assist the Portuguese, if wanted, but they appear in high spirits. You shall hear how things go on by the next conveyance to England."

It is reported that Sir Robert Wilson is shortly to go out on a mission to Spain or Portugal.

It was yesterday reported, that the Duke of York, in deference to public opinion, has waved his pretensions to the command of the army destined to assist the Spaniards and Portuguese against France.

Yesterday the late Spanish Ambassador to the U. States arrived at Mrs. Price's, in Leicester Square.

SPAIN.

BOSTON, Sept. 26.

Capt. Parsons, arrived on Saturday, from Cadiz, which place he left July 22, (though not so late as before) confirms many accounts received through other channels. He states that the Spaniards are sanguine in their success against the French—their exertions and enthusiasm, to arm and equip, and enrol themselves as soldiers is beyond description, no rank or condition from the highest to the lowest, from the oldest to the youngest, but what are determined on victory or death—that all the city guards and regulars had marched into the interior—that 10,000 men, volunteers, composed of all ranks were under arms every day in the city of Cadiz and its environs, drilling and inuring themselves to the fatigues of war—that 1,200,000 men were enrolled in the kingdom—that between 4 and 500,000 men were under arms—and that 100,000 men were ordered from the different provinces to march for Madrid.

American Intelligence.

FREDERICKSBURG, Sept. 27.

ON Saturday last, as the mail stage from Richmond to this place was crossing Burk's bridge, the part of the bridge gave way, and the stage was precipitated from 15 to 20 feet into the river, and completely capsized. There were 8 passengers in the stage, two of whom only (a lady and a gentleman) were materially injured. One of the horses was drowned.

From the (Richmond) Spirit of '96.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

IN THE COURT OF CHANCERY FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MOND DISTRICT.

September 1808.

MARKS vs MORRIS.

In this case, which involved a question of the chancellor decided that where a man comes into court of Equity, to be relieved from a deed, of the nature of an usurious transaction, and the validity of which is proved by the testimony of witnesses, he shall be relieved not only from the interest, but from the principal. In such a case, the decision of a court of equity, as the chancellor said, will be precisely the same with the decision of a court of law. In both courts the contract, as well as the security, is considered as void.

But if the borrower is unable to prove the usury, except by the defendant's answer, then the act of assembly, which speaks of suits in chancery, for the purpose of discovering usury, applies; and the borrower will be obliged to return the principal money borrowed.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 1.

INTERESTING.

By the mail of this morning, we have received from our correspondent at New Orleans, a copy of papers to the 30th Aug. They contain interesting accounts from Vera Cruz, the length of which prevents our inserting more than a brief summary in this paper of to-day. The details shall be given in our next.

The Danish scho'r Henry, arrived at New Orleans the 30th Aug. from Vera Cruz, which place she left the 12th—by her information is received that on the 20th a vessel arrived at that port with dispatches from officers from Buonaparte, dated at Bayonne, announcing the abdication of the Spanish monarchy in favour.

This intelligence occasioned great consternation in Vera Cruz. The officers civil and military, of the Spanish government, instantly resolved not to submit to the authority of Buonaparte. A meeting was immediately held, and a unanimous resolution entered into, to acknowledge no other master than Ferdinand VII. and to resist to death the usurpation of his government. The same movements took place at Cadiz, peachy, on receiving the intelligence.

Mr. Cevallos, the port admiral of Vera Cruz, was forced to abandon his post, and arrived at New Orleans in the Henry. The French commissioners were confined in the Castle. [Phil. Gaz.]

October 3.

A letter received in this city from Barraco, in Havana, dated 2d September, says, "a vessel arrived here from St. Jago, brings advices that the inhabitants of St. Thomas are evacuating the island, on account of the scarcity of provisions." [N. Y. Pap.]

Yesterday arrived the ship Frances Ann. Taylor from Plymouth, in 67 days. By this arrival nothing of particular importance is received. Capt. T. sailed from Nantz with 38 passengers, was taken by an English frigate and sent into Plymouth, where several of his passengers have been detained as prisoners of war. [Ibid.]

ELEVATED WARFARE.

A singular species of duel has lately taken place in Paris. Mr. Grandpre and Mr. Le Pique, having quarrelled about a celebrated Opera Dancer, who was kept by the former, but had been discovered in an intrigue with the latter, a challenge ensued. Being both men of elevated minds, they agreed to fight in balloons. On the day appointed the parties met at a field adjoining the Thuilleries, where their respective balloons were ready to receive them. Each attended by his second, ascended his car, with loaded bladders, as pistols could not be expected to be efficient in their probable situation. A multitude attended the hearing of the balloons, but little dreaming of the purpose; the Parisians merely looked for the novelty of a balloon race. At 9 o'clock the cords were cut, and the balloons ascended gradually, amidst the applause of the spectators. The wind was moderate, blowing from the N. W. and they kept, as far as could be judged, within eighty yards of each other. When they had mounted to the height of about nine hundred yards, M. Le Pique fired his piece ineffectually almost immediately after the fire was returned by Mr. Grandpre, and perforated his adversary's balloon; the consequence of which was its rapid descent, and M. Le Pique and his second were both dashed to pieces on a house over which the balloon fell. The second of Grandpre then mounted aloft in the grandest style, and descended safe, with his second, about 7 leagues from the place of ascension. [Lon. Pap. of July 26]