

Foreign Intelligence.

BY ARRIVALS AT NEW-YORK.

NEW-YORK, January 25. Yesterday arrived at this port the British Packet Princess Amelia, Moorson, from Falmouth, via Bermuda, having left England on the 8th December; and the ship Philipburg, Leffingwell, from Liverpool and Cork. The latter left Liverpool on the 17th of November, and Cork on the 22nd December. By these two vessels the editor of the Mercantile Advertiser has received London papers of the 3d December, and Cork papers of the 8th, nearly a month later than any previous advices. We have extracted from the latest of these papers whatever is interesting, those of an interior date being unusually barren of intelligence. It appears that the army of the French emperor had entered Spain, and that the division of general Blake had been defeated with considerable loss; but this defeat is not considered to excite despondency with respect to the ultimate success of the patriots.

The captain of the Packet informs us that on the 6th of December two British regiments of cavalry failed from Falmouth for Spain, to reinforce the patriotic army; and that on his passage he spoke the Guerrier frigate from the West-Indies, and received intelligence that the English had taken Martinique.

H. Purvyance, passenger in the Philipburg, is the bearer of dispatches for government from our minister at the court of St. James.

STOCKHOLM, Nov. 11. HIS Royal Majesty has received the following report from the general in chief of the army, including a report from colonel Idensalmi, chief of brigade, touching a severe battle which has been fought in the vicinity of Idensalmi.

"Since the armistice concluded between the Swedish and Russian armies was declared to be at an end, a Russian officer arrived from the front, with the intelligence that hostilities would be immediately recommenced.

"Soon after I received a report that my advance had been attacked by the Russians, and compelled by the enemy's great superiority in number, to fall back to Werda bridge, which was soon after broken down after the troops had crossed it. A violent cannonade immediately commenced by the enemy from the neighbouring heights, which was vigorously returned from our side, and Prince Dolgoucki, who commanded the Russian van, was mortally wounded at the commencement of the action, and expired soon after. In the meantime the enemy's chassours and infantry crossed the bridge, which they had repaired, and moved in a line and advanced against our troops, notwithstanding the vigorous cannonade which was kept up from our batteries, which they attempted to carry, but were repulsed by our troops with the utmost intrepidity and courage, and pursued as far as Werda bridge. In this action the enemy's loss consisted in 1000 men killed and wounded, and 7000 prisoners, among whom are two field-officers.

"According to the accounts of the prisoners, the enemy's force in the above affair, which lasted six hours, exceeded 6000 men, commanded by lieutenant-general Tutchkoff, and under him by generals Rachmanoff, Prince Dolgoucki, and Alexeyeff.

"At the close of the action, the Russian commanding general proposed a suspension of hostilities for 24 hours, to bury his dead, which I was the more ready to grant, as our loss was also considerable, consisting of 3000 killed and 250 wounded."

Brig. Quarters, Idensalmi, Oct. 26, 1808.

PORTSMOUTH, November 24. Sailed, the Lavinia, of 40 guns, capt. lord Stuart, for Corunna, having on board 500,000 dollars for the patriots, with private specie for Lisbon and Cadiz. The Spanish deputies return in her, with several officers for the British army, and the remainder in chief of our forces in Portugal, J. Cradox, K. B. is gone passenger to Lisbon.

LONDON, December 2. It was on Wednesday stated at Lloyd's that intelligence had been received of Buonaparte's arrival at Madrid on the 17th ult. but from what quarter, or by what means such a statement was brought to the coffee-house, we could not ascertain. Mr. Munro, one of the king's messengers, who arrived yesterday with the Corunna mail, and brought dispatches from lord William Bentinck and Mr. Frere, brought also dispatches from generals Brodorick and Leitch, having passed along the line of march of Sir David Baird's army. The accounts received by government were given in substance in a bulletin.

"It appears by dispatches received from Corunna, dated the 22d, and from San Vincente de la Barquera, dated 19th ult. that the account of gen. Blake being defeated is confirmed. He was engaged in continual actions from the 4th till the 13th. On the 11th the Asturias having been worsted in the left, the French got possession of a height which covered the road on which they retreated, and they were thrown into great confusion, and gen. Blake retired to Reynoso; but a French column appearing upon this road from Burgos he retreated by Solo to San Vincente de la Barquera. There, upon the 17th, he had collected near 20,000 of his troops, and the marquis de la Romana had taken the command, and they would soon be in a state of advance again.

"The French had occupied St. Andero and Santona—the former on the 16th, and the latter on the 20th, but by the exertions of gen. Leitch, all the provisions, ammunitions and stores, sent by this country had been removed.

"It appears that part of the army at Estremadura, had been defeated near Burgos by the French; but there are no accounts of their having advanced beyond it. General Moore arrived on the 10th at Salamanca—Gen Baird was at Astorga."

To this we add, on the credit however, of private letters, that the French corps that advanced to Valladolid had afterwards retreated to Burgos.

LATER ACCOUNTS.

The Favourite cutter has arrived at Plymouth, from the coast of Spain. The Bonne Citoyenne, capt. Thompson, arrived yesterday at Portsmouth, capt. T. has since reached town. He left Corunna on the 26th ult. and brings accounts from gen. Blake's army to the 24th.—The substance of the intelligence by the Bonne Citoyenne, will be found in the subjoined letters:—

PORTSMOUTH, December 1.

"This afternoon arrived here the Bonne Citoyenne, capt. Thompson, with dispatches from Corunna, from whence the Bonne Citoyenne sailed on Saturday last, the 26th ult. Capt. Thompson brings dispatches from gen. Blake's army, which continued retreating, but bravely defending every inch of ground till the 24th, when gen. Blake made a firm stand, and repelled his enemies, numerous as they were. After this action gen. Blake's force remained 25,000 strong. This we must think very good news; but we regret to hear that Romana's force, having made some mistake in the route, fell in with the enemy, and, after a brave resistance, and having slaughtered an immense number of the enemy, he was at length overpowered and cut in pieces. We regret still more to learn, that Buonaparte's emissaries had too well succeeded in stirring up faction, and that the Prince of Peace's party was formidable in Spain. We trust however that the patriots will ultimately succeed over Buonaparte and the Prince of Peace.

"The news from Oporto are unfavourable. The party there in opposition to the regency is very strong, and gen. Beresford had meditated in vain. The French are at Valladolid."

Another letter, same date.

"This afternoon, at eight o'clock, the Bonne Citoyenne sloop of war, arrived from Corunna, from whence she sailed on Saturday last, bringing accounts from gen. Blake's army up to the 24th ult.

"The dispatches she has brought will be found to relate to several most dreadful battles between the armies of gen. Blake and marshal Ney. The marquis Romana's troops (from the Baltic) by advancing too far ahead of gen. Blake's army, were severely defeated; one of the regiments of Catalonia has been cut to pieces.

"The fighting on both sides was most obstinate and desperate. The marquis of Romana's cavalry was preserved. In the last attack Blake repulsed the French with considerable loss. He is now at Cintra, about 40 miles north of St. Andero, with 25,000 men. The communication between him and the centre army, under Castanos, is cut off, the French army being between them, whose head-quarters are at Valladolid. There are many fears for the safety of the centre army. The Prince of Peace's army in Spain is very strong, and the patriotic cause looks desponding. Sir David Baird was at Astorga, with his army, and Sir John Moore at Salamanca. They have not been engaged.

"In the Bonne Citoyenne came passenger capt. Gage, of the royal artillery, with dispatches from Sir Robert Wilson, at Oporto. His dispatches are not so favourable as could be wished. The party against the provisional government is very strong and turbulent. Sir Robert had clothed, armed and trained 2000 Portuguese, and formed them into a battalion. There were three British regiments there."

The following interesting private communication has been transmitted to us:—

All the intelligence which has lately reached us is contradictory and inconsistent: hopes and fears alternately have their dominion.

This letter is sent off with great dispatch and is consequently brief in observation. Yesterday arrived here two Spanish frigates from St. Andero, and previously some English vessels from the same port. The accounts they bring are not distinct. These vessels left St. Andero on the 14th from the news of gen. Blake's defeat. The arrival of the French was then hourly expected; and the Spanish frigates were therefore filled with wounded, who had been brought from Reynosa, and preparations were made to blow up the powder magazines, spike the cannon, &c. Some accounts even state, that the report of an explosion at St. Andero was heard while the vessels were under weigh.

Letters from Castile mention, that Castanos had defeated a body of the French; but this report still rests on light authority, and is too long unconfirmed to claim much credit. Yet another circumstance adds to our confidence here: Letters from Madrid conveyed by the last mail, mention the arrival of good news as the post was departing. The intelligence from these different sources require to be connected, in order to form a good opinion of what is probably occurring. One thing is certain, that the public apprehension has decreased. The enemy, it is ascertained, is in Old Castile, and the transmission of intelligence is unsafe, from the possibility of being intercepted by detached parties of the enemy; but the regular post continues to proceed. Blake's army has sustained some defeats, but they are not of a very alarming, though of a distressing nature. There has been no surrender of any large body—a great superiority of force has won battles—but the vanquished have invariably fallen bravely, and their resistance has been such, that it is not too much to say, that the enemy's victories if they are all bought as dearly, will secure the independence of Spain. Still there is much reason for sorrow and regret. The fate of none is more deplored than of a strong division of the brave Army of the North—these suffered heavily. The regiment of Catalonia was offered quarters by the enemy, but refused it, and every man of 1700 died voluntarily and gloriously, and in his death heaping destruction upon his enemies. The dismounted cavalry of the same troops were prevented from engaging, by the want of horses; but the Marquis of Romana has placed all the horses of the province in a state of requisition. The fresh troops of Galicia fought furiously, and like veterans.—Their general having been severely wounded in the foot, rode along the lines, exhorting and animating the troops to vengeance, and refused to permit the dressing of his wound, until they had sworn, as he had done, to die for their liberties and their country. His exhortation had an irresistible effect upon his soldiers. This brave officer died afterwards on board one of the Spanish frigates.

It was understood at St. Andero that gen. Blake was in superior force to the enemy, and would defend the town; for the Marquis of Romana, though the command would devolve upon him by seniority, had refused to supersede gen. Blake. On the strength of that army now, we are without precise information. Some represent it to be 28,000 strong; this it is suspected, is an exaggeration of its actual strength. It is certain that the army has moved towards Leon; which, though a retreat, with respect to the Spanish frontier, is an advantageous measure in reference to the safety of Galicia, as well as its advantage in co-operating with the British armies. No apprehension is entertained for the safety of the British troops.

The last letters from Madrid are not in the expression of alarm. The Spanish troops have been successful almost every where but in Biscay and Galicia; and a great part of the army of Estremadura, which it was considered had been destroyed at Burgos, has escaped, though in a destitute state, to Segovia. The enemy's excursions in Castile have been rapid, but of short duration. At Valencia, however, and Valladolid, they accomplished the release of a number of French prisoners and some suspected persons. The public feeling is, on the whole, in a better state than it was ten days back. Human nature must lament the sufferings and endurance of the brave Patriots—but the recollection is unaccompanied by any dismay; as to the result of their exertions

December 4. MOST IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE FROM SPAIN. Defeat of the French—passage of the Ebro, and taking of Coparossa, by the Spanish Centre Army—Retreat of the French Division opposed to gen. Blake's army.

Our information as to general Blake's force (now commanded by the Marquis de la Romana) may be deemed official, as far as it goes, being derived from a statement which capt. Thompson of the Citoyenne, received from capt. Hawkins of the Minerva. That

authority of private communications from Madrid, which is furnished by a Spanish gentleman of great respectability, now residing in that capital. In this correspondence will be read with much interest, will be the first accounts of operations of the Spanish army of the centre. These it appears have attended with complete success; the passage of the Ebro has been forced at three points, the strong French position of Coparossa with the heights around it taken. The result of this general action is not yet known. The postscript of the last letter from Madrid informs us, that the fighting continued on the 13th, when a courier who brought the intelligence, the substance of which we have stated, left the army. But circumstances have occurred which render it highly probable that the army of the centre has obtained a decisive victory. One of these is a fact stated in the following bulletin, which was circulated on Friday from the government offices, on account of the intelligence received by the Bonne Citoyenne sloop of war, which left Corunna on Saturday last, and arrived at Portsmouth.

"The Bonne Citoyenne spoke the Minerva, which had been cruising off St. Andero. By her she was informed, that on the 10th the French had entered St. Vincent de la Barquera, and that the Spaniards had retreated after a sharp contest. On the 25th a battle is said to have taken place, and the accounts were, that at the close of it, the Marquis de Romana was driving the French before him.

"On the 22d ult. Sir David Baird was at Astorga. It was not believed that the French were at Valladolid in great force."

Though the information given in this bulletin is very scanty; yet, if after several fighting, the Spanish army of the centre should have routed the French in Navarre, the advantages he had gained over the Marquis of Galicia, and the French at Burgos probably be cut off, as they are reported to have been by some of our letters. The Marquis of Romana's artillery is, however, stated in the Spanish papers to have been moved to Leon, we do not consider the advantages he has obtained to be important, otherwise than shewing the diminution of the part of the enemy's force which had been opposed to him, the constancy of his troops, and his opportunity for moving towards the point at which Sir John Moore and Sir David Baird would add 30,000 men to his force; of which junction having been effected we have no doubt.

On the 27th of September last, advices were received at Monte Viedo, by a British courier dispatched by Lord Collingwood, of the recent revolution in Spain, which were forwarded to Buenos Ayres. The receipt of these advices excited great indignation in the minds of the inhabitants at the perfidy of Buonaparte; and there was no doubt that he would immediately declare in favour of Ferdinand VII.

CORK, December 1. Of the Bilbao army, the last accounts are contradictory. By one statement, gens. Moore and Baird were hastening from Astorga to Salamanca, to their point of junction at Zamora—and another but less credible, describes them as falling back, one upon the Vicinfa in Asturias, and the other upon the Montes in Portugal.

The brother of the Marquis de Romana and gen. Quiroz, were killed in the battle of the 11th.

A French force had reached Valladolid but it was not supposed to be strong.

The French occupied Santander on the 15th ult.

There is several rumours afloat, stating that the French had been repulsed from St. Vincent de Barquera, with great loss—that they retreated to Burgos—that Austria and Prussia have declared war against France, and that others equally flattering, and desirable, which we cannot permit ourselves to credit at present.

Of the French positions in Spain little is known; and of the forces under Palafox, Castanos as little, owing to the difficulty of transmitting intelligence with safety from Madrid to Corunna.

Official accounts from Stockholm confirm the defeat of the Russians in Finland.

An Austrian messenger it is stated, came in the Minerva, which arrived at Plymouth on Wednesday last, from Malta. A treaty is reported, is nearly concluded between England and Austria.

We have received Dutch papers to the 13th ultimo. The Paris news contained in the states that part of Junot's army is destined for Portugal, for which country it is marching, under the title of "The Viceroy's Army of Portugal."

Col. Fletcher has been dismissed the British service upon a charge of cruelty. The court recommended that he be placed on half pay, which was granted.