

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

LXVth YEAR.]

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 1809.

[No. 3]

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

BALTIMORE, WEDNESDAY, May 31.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Washington, Tuesday, May 23.

At 12 o'clock, the President of the United States communicated to both Houses of Congress the following

MESSAGE.

My dear Citizens of the Senate,
and of the House of Representatives,

On this first occasion of meeting you, it affords me much satisfaction to be able to communicate the commencement of a favorable change in our foreign relations; the actual state of which induced a session of Congress at this early period.

In consequence of the provisions of the act respecting commercial intercourse with Great Britain and France, our ministers at London and Paris were, without delay, instructed, to be understood by the French and British governments, that the authority vested in the executive to renew commercial intercourse with their respective nations, would be exercised, by the case specified in that act.

Soon after these instructions were dispatched, it was found that the British government, participating from early proceedings of Congress at their last session, the state of our laws had had the effect of placing the two belligerent powers on a footing of equal relations, and relying on the conciliatory disposition of the United States, had transmitted to their Legation here, provisional instructions not only to offer satisfaction for the wreck on the frigate Chesapeake, and to make known the determination of his Britannic Majesty, to send an Envoy Extraordinary and powers to conclude a treaty on all points between the two countries; but, moreover, to signify his willingness, in the mean-time, to withdraw his orders in council, in the persuasion that the intercourse with Great Britain, should be renewed on the part of the United States.

These steps of the British government led to the correspondence and the proclamation laid before you; by virtue of which, commerce between the two countries will be renewable after the 10th day of June next. Whilst I take pleasure in doing justice to the councils of his Britannic Majesty, which longer adhering to the policy which made abandonment by France of her decrees a requisite to a revocation of the British orders, have substituted the amicable course which has issued thus happily, I cannot do than refer to the proposal heretofore made on the part of the United States embracing the restoration of the suspended commerce, as a proof of the spirit of accommodation which has at no time been intermitted; and the result which now calls for our congratulations, as corroborating the principles by which the public councils have been guided during a period of the most trying embarrassments.

The discontinuance of the British orders, they respect the United States, having been arranged, a communication of the event has been forwarded in one of our public vessels to our minister plenipotentiary at Paris, with instructions to avail himself of the important addition thereby made to the considerations which press on the justice of the British government, a revocation of its decrees, or such a modification of them, as that shall cease to violate the neutral commerce of the United States.

The revision of our commercial laws, proposed to adapt them to the arrangement which has taken place with Great-Britain, will doubtless engage the early attention of Congress. It will be worthy, at the same time, their just and provident care, to make such alterations in the laws, as will more especially protect and foster the several branches of manufacture, which have been lately instituted, or extended by the laudable exertions of our citizens.

Under the existing aspect of our affairs, I thought it not inconsistent with a just precaution, to have the gun-boats, with the exception of those at N. Orleans, placed in a station incurring no expense beyond that requisite for their preservation, and convenient for future service; and to have the number of those at New-Orleans, reduced to the number required for their navigation and safety.

I have thought, also, that our citizens deserved in quotas of militia amounting to one hundred thousand, under the act of March, might not improperly be relieved from the duty in which they were held for immediate service. A discharge of them has been accordingly directed.

The progress made in raising and organizing the additional military force, for which provision was made by the act of April, 1808, together with the disposition of the troops, will appear by a report which the secretary of war is preparing, and which will be laid before you.

Of the additional frigates required by an act of the last session, to be fitted for actual service, two are in readiness, one nearly so; and the fourth is expected to be ready in the month of July. A report which the secretary of the navy is preparing on the subject, to be laid before Congress, will shew at the same time, the progress made in officering and manning these ships. It will shew also, the degree in which the provisions of the act relating to the other public armed ships, have been carried into execution.

It will rest with the judgment of Congress to decide how far the change in our external prospects may authorize any modification of the laws, relating to the army and navy establishments.

The works of defence for our seaport towns and harbours, have proceeded with as much activity, as the season of the year and other circumstances would admit. It is necessary, however, to state, that the appropriations hitherto made being found to be deficient, a further provision will claim the early consideration of Congress.

The whole of the eight per cent. stock remaining due by the United States, amounting to five millions, three hundred thousand dollars, had been reimbursed on the last day of the year 1808. And on the first day of April last, the sum in the treasury exceeded nine and a half millions of dollars. This, together with the receipts of the current year on account of former revenue bonds, will probably be nearly, if not altogether, sufficient to defray the expenses of the year. But the suspension of exports, and the consequent decrease of importations during the last twelve months, will necessarily cause a great diminution in the receipts of the year 1810.

After that year, should our foreign relations be undisturbed, the revenue will again be more than commensurate to all the expenditures.

Aware of the inconveniences of a protracted session at the present season of the year, I forbear to call the attention of the Legislature to any matters not particularly urgent. It remains therefore only to assure you of the fidelity and alacrity, with which I shall cooperate for the welfare and happiness of our country; and to pray that it may experience a continuance of the Divine Blessings, by which it has been so signally favoured.

(Signed) JAMES MADISON.

From a London paper of March 27.

REVOLUTION IN SWEDEN.

Another important event is to be added to the many that have occurred of late years; a revolution has broken out in Sweden, and the gallant monarch has been deposed. His uncle has seized the reins of government, and in a proclamation addressed to the people, declares his nephew incapable of conducting the affairs of the nation. The details of this revolution we have not yet received. It was probably concerted by the duke of Sudermania and some of the nobles at Stockholm, with the commanders of the troops on the frontiers of Norway. The revolutionary symptoms developed themselves first among the troops.

The want of cloathing and provisions had created great discontent, which was fomented by the commander in chief, who broke up from his position, and began his march to Stockholm to demand a diet of the states. On their march they published a proclamation, in which they stated that their views were merely these;—that the states of the Realm and the legislatures shall be at liberty to assemble and deliberate without control. The proclamation then draws a picture of the wretched state of Sweden; and in speaking of G. Britain and France says, that the former, the ally of Sweden, shall learn to appreciate, and value a nation, which knows how to break its fetters, and that the latter shall be taught to respect a people anxious to rival her military powers. The proclamation contains a solemn declaration that not a single inch more of Swedish territory shall be given up to the enemy. The duke of Sudermania, not waiting for the meeting of the states, deposed the king by his own authority, and assumed the government. His majesty was put under arrest as he was about to set out for his country residence. When the guard surrounded him he drew his sword, but he was soon overpowered, and when the last advices left Stockholm, he was a close prisoner.

Sir David Dundas is appointed Commander in Chief, with the same powers as those held by the Duke of York.

From the Freeman's Journal.

LATEST FROM SPAIN.

PHILADELPHIA, MAY 22.

The brig Cerberus, Lufkin, arrived here on Saturday evening, in 42 days from Cadiz. By this arrival the editors of the Freeman's Journal have received Gibraltar papers to the 2d, and the Seville Gazettes to the 4th of April, copious extracts and translations from which are subjoined.

It is positively stated by one of the passengers, that Russia had made peace with Great-Britain, and that two days before the Cerberus sailed an express had been received in Cadiz from the British admiral in the Tagus ordering the Russian flag to be respected.

After the battle of Medellin, in Estremadura, of which we have no detailed account, the French penetrated into Andalusia, and were said to be within eighteen leagues of Seville.

The situation of Spain, which we cannot disguise, looks worse than we expected, is not, however, hopeless.—Their allies the British, who ought to be supposed to know the real state of the country, have again sent a fine army of 30,000 men to their assistance.—This does not look like despondency, nor do we see any thing of it in our papers—but the verbal reports of a passenger are quite the reverse. He appears to think that Spain must ultimately yield to the French power.

The American vessels which had been so long detained at Cadiz, had been restored through the interference and at the request of the Marquis de Cassa Yrujo.

Verbal accounts state that gen. Redding was in Catalonia, and gen. Cuella in Estremadura.—That the marquis Romana was in the mountains of Asturias—that nothing was known of Blake—that the army of La Mancha, formerly under Infantado, and lately under gen. Urbino, was totally annihilated—that gen. Castanos was confined in a convent near Seville for misconduct, (no doubt at the battle of Tudela)—that nothing was known of Palafox, whether dead or living, but that it was reported that Saragozza was totally a heap of ruins and destroyed, having been literally blown up by inches, and only 10,000 inhabitants remaining alive out of 80,000 which were in the city when the siege commenced—that after the battle of Medellin, in Estremadura, another severe battle took place, in which Cuella was defeated, while the French, as stated above, were menacing Seville. Such is the substance of our verbal accounts, which the passenger who narrated them states were the reports at Cadiz.

CORDOVA, MARCH 27.

The army of the centre, under the command of count de Cartaojal, has advanced towards Toledo, and in an action which was fought near that city, has defeated and captured a whole Polish regiment.

SEVILLE, APRIL 1.

From the Army of Estremadura.

The general in chief of the army of Estremadura, (gen. Cuella) is posted at Berlanga with the whole of the divisions of his army, at which place likewise is posted the troops which were nigh Guadaloupe, but were not in the battle of Medellin, and the troops that were scattered in consequence of it. Till the 29th March the enemy had not passed the Don Benito and la Serena.

Gen. Cuella, although wounded in that battle, yet, with that activity and enterprise which characterize him, continued profiting of every opportunity to observe the French, and defend the capital, in case of an attack upon it.

The supreme junta, which is so much interested in the preservation of this worthy general, has ordered him henceforward to declare the state of his health.

By a Malaga article of the 11th of March, it appears that packets are to be appointed to sail every ten days, from that port for Trieste on the Adriatic: "which disposition," it is added, "clearly evinces the good understanding which prevails between the two governments, and the importance attached to a regular intercourse between the two countries."

Extract of a letter from a very intelligent and respectable gentleman in Cadiz, to his friend in this city, dated Cadiz, March 31.

"We are assured that Austria has declared war. If so, the affairs in this country will take a very different turn. The British, notwithstanding their reverses in the north of Spain, have returned to the charge, and 30 thousand men have arrived at Lisbon, and the vanguard are marching on against the French, and may soon again expect to be up with

them. An army of near 40,000 French are in the adjoining province to be coming down, it is supposed to attack there is every reasonable hope to do every thing will go right, for my part not the least apprehension.—The French have suffered much—it was natural that they would, and the cause of Spain is a good deal injured by the alarm given to England, after the retreat of Sir J. army. These people suffered much, from want of information and more than any thing else. But after all, true, which we have every reason to think that Austria has declared war, and any resistance, nothing is to be expected from this side."

APPOINTMENTS.

By the supreme junta of Spain, in the name of king Ferdinand VIIth:

His excellency the marquis de Casar, counsellor of state and ambassador extraordinary to the Prince Regent of Brazil, special and very important mission. His excellency was to sail about the middle of the month on board of a forty-four gun ship to Brazil.

Don Martin Folch, secretary to the embassy at Lisbon.

Don Ignatius Lima, secretary of legation in Sweden.

From Poulson's Daily Advertiser.

The brig Cerberus, arrived here on Saturday evening, left Cadiz on the 6th of April. Every thing was tranquil there. Reports that the French army, after several engagements, had approached within 10 leagues of Seville. The Spanish patriots are desponding—they are making every effort to rally and increase their forces, and doubt of ultimately driving their conquerors from their territory.

A letter from Cadiz states, that on the evening of the 4th April the performance of the theatre was suspended, to announce the arrival of a courier with the formation of an important victory obtained by gen. Cuella, the commander of the army of Estremadura.

In addition to the above, we are informed that many of the French, confined at Cadiz, had died by the rigour of their imprisonment; those alive, including the soldiers, the French merchants, and the inhabitants of the town of Cadiz, and who had been taken up on suspicious grounds, as inimical to the Spanish cause, were executed for Minorca.

From Portugal the last accounts state a French army of 16,000 at Braga. A conspiracy was said to have been discovered among the Portuguese nobles, which many of the Portuguese nobles were concerned, to deliver the country to the French; in consequence of which gen. C. and two of his aids had been murdered.

BALTIMORE, MAY 22.

From the Merchants' Coffee-House.

Arrived schr. Amiable, Fitch, from Carthage. Capt. F. brought letters and a memorial from the American prisoners in Miranda's expedition, which if government interest would be liberated. Yesterday, at two large ships, apparently men of war, one of them with a gun-shot, came to fire. The light-house then fired, being so close to the vessels, that the unapprised that war was declared, every sail we could. The ship was formed after by the pilot, was the frigate Melampus, continued to keep a brisk fire, several shots passed over our heads, and others on the beach; by this time we had got to within a mile of the light-house. Perceiving that they would not come up with us, he fired a shot and made sail off—all this time we were in our colours flying.

ST. CLAIRSVILLE, (OHIO) MAY 22.

From an extract of a letter of the 14th of April, from gen. William Clark to the Indiana side of the Mississippi, to attack the fort up the Missouri, the mouth of the Moin river—and the major Christie way to march on the north with three companies of militia, to that post. Capt. House, of the artillery, Pyrat's detachment of regulars were to set out for that place in a boat, that 5 or 600 men were in requisition if necessary.