

LATE
Foreign Intelligence.

BY THE BRITISH PACKET AT N. YORK.

NEW-YORK, MARCH 5.

Last evening arrived at this port, the British Packet Eliza, from Falmouth, with the December and January mails. The Packet sailed on the 15th January, and a passenger has politely favoured us with a file of London papers to the 12th of January, from which we have copied the most interesting articles.

The paper of the 12th states as probable, that the French decrees would very speedily be revoked.

The United States ship of war John Adams, had arrived in England, France and Holland.

We learn from the passengers in the Packet, that not the smallest apprehension was entertained that a war would ensue in consequence of the dismissal of Mr. Jackson. The first official account of his dismissal appeared in the London papers of the 22d Dec. but rumours of the rupture had been in circulation some days previous.

All the London papers, from the 22d of Dec. to the 12th Jan. contain the correspondence between Mr. Jackson and Secretary Smith, President Madison's message to Congress after the dismissal of Mr. Jackson, the proceedings of Congress down to the middle of Dec.

The Packet brought out between 7 and 8000 letters. Mr. Guest, a passenger, was the bearer of voluminous Dispatches from Mr. Pinkney to Government.

The Times of Jan. 4, says, "The skeine of American negotiations becomes every day more puzzled, and every day are we more convinced, that great faults and blunders have been committed by both parties, or the disputes might long ago have been amicably adjusted."

LONDON, DEC. 21.

THE honourable D. M. Erskine was yesterday presented to the king at his majesty's levee, on his return from his mission to the United States.

DECEMBER 26.

It is stated in letters from Gottenburgh of the 11th inst. that one of the articles of peace between Sweden and France stipulates the accession of the former to the Confederation of the Rhine; her contingent not to exceed ten thousand men. In return for this, France it is said, agrees to restore Swedish Pomerania, to which a small part of the adjacent Prussian territory is also to be annexed. The policy of Sweden maintaining any possessions south of the Baltic has been very questionable for many years, but in her present state it will only tend to increase her difficulties, and confirm her dependence on France.

The Secretary of the American Minister and M. Mayntz, the Austrian courier, embarked about 11 o'clock on Sunday morning at Dover, and sailed immediately for France. The latter is said to be the bearer of the answer of our government to the offer which is reported to have been made by the Court of Vienna, to become the mediator for the restoration of peace between this country and France. It is possible that Buonaparte may have concurred in a communication of this sort; not that he expects it will lead to any satisfactory result, but that either from his rejection or acceptance under conditions injurious to his pretensions, he may derive the advantage of throwing on us all the odium of the continuance of war.

DECEMBER 27.

The liberty to import salt and colonial produce from England, is said to be conceded to Sweden in one of the articles of peace between that power and France.

On the 19th Nov. 73 vessels, including 16 Americans, were froze up at Cronstadt.

DECEMBER 28.

Orders have been given for the immediate equipment of three sail of the line to cruise off the coast of Ireland, and to augment the fleet already on that station.

DECEMBER 29.

The flag of truce that failed for Calais on Sunday, with Mayntz, the Austrian courier, and Mr. Powell, the secretary to the American minister, returned to Dover on Wednesday, with the latter gentleman, who was not allowed to land. The refusal, it is said, was qualified by an assurance, that he would be allowed to disembark and proceed to Paris whenever he should present himself at that port, (St. Maloes,) through which communications between the respective ministers of the United States at the courts of London & Paris were generally made.—After what has been said of America in the Exposé, we are rather surprised to find so little disposition in the French government to accommodate the diplomacy of that country. What difference does it make to Buonaparte through which of his ports, provided he tolerates it, Messrs. Pinkney and Armstrong correspond? This marked insult can hardly have arisen from

mere displeasure at the breach of a capricious regulation. From the length of time that the flag of truce was on the other side, it is probable there was some communication by the telegraph, or otherwise between the commandant at Calais and his government, respecting the admittance of Mr. Powell into the empire.—The flag of truce brought over a report, that Mr. Armstrong was about to return to America. This if the rumour be well founded would sufficiently account for the indignity with which Mr. Pinkney's secretary has been treated.

JANUARY 1.

It is said the troops embarking at Portsmouth, which were intending for Portugal, are to proceed to Halifax; another embarkation is immediately to take place at Cork, for the same destination. Sir G. P. Prevost, in consequence of the uncertain state of our relations with America, deemed it imprudent to withdraw from Nova-Scotia any part of the military.

The rupture at present is not between America and England, but between the American government and Mr. Jackson.

Ministers have been busily occupied in deliberations upon the last dispatches from America, having held two cabinet councils between Thursday and Saturday. It is said if the American government refuse to renew their negotiations with Mr. Jackson, no other negotiator will be submitted.

JAN. 3.

Letters dated on Wednesday last, were yesterday received from Holland. The imperial decree for the annexation of that country to France had not been received, but there was no doubt respecting the fact. The senate's consent was supposed to have passed in the sitting on the 18th ult. None of the custom-house officers or troops from France had entered Holland at the date of these letters; but they were hourly expected. The publication of the decree of incorporation, it was supposed, would be deferred until their arrival; and the necessary precautions had been taken to prevent any explosion of popular resentment at this political annihilation of the country. The Dutch funds had fallen considerably in consequence of an opinion that on the annexation they would either be entirely abolished or the interest very much diminished. The alarm was general, and holders were eager to sell at any price they could obtain. Several ships sailed from the Dutch coast on Wednesday, the last that may be expected to leave it for sometime.

JAN. 4.

No fewer than 83 ships arrived from Holland in the course of yesterday morning, by which numerous letters and papers have been conveyed to this country. The inhabitants were in great confusion and anxiety under the view of the political changes which were expected to take place in the government.

JAN. 8.

A long and very important letter we have given in our paper of this day, from Mr. Smith to Mr. Pinkney, relative to the unhappy dispute with Mr. Jackson. The whole materials are however yet incomplete. We want the correspondence between Mr. Erskine and the secretary for the foreign department.

JAN. 9.

An immense force, it would seem, is proceeding to Spain. Exclusive of 15,000 conscripts that have been trained at Bayonne, veterans to thrice that amount are on their march for the Peninsula.

The Russians are said to have been defeated near Silistria, and compelled to repass the Danube. The Turks are under the command of the Grand Vizier.

JAN 10.

Accounts from Holland received yesterday state, that it was hoped they would be able to avert the fate with which they are menaced. Alarmed by the threat of annexation to France, the senate and legislative body were understood to have represented through king Louis, their readiness to adopt and enforce any measures suggested by the French government for distressing this country. They also agreed that Holland should give every aid of which it was capable, in any way to the French finances. In this representation, some of the principal commercial houses have joined. It is possible the proposition may be accepted, but we doubt whether it will prevent the eventual incorporation with the French empire.

Mr. Oakley is about to return to America. We believe he leaves town this day in order to embark.

The Princess Charlotte frigate, with the Lord Keith, Earl Spencer, and Monarch, hitherto bound East-Indiamen, arrived on Sunday at Portsmouth. They bring the agreeable intelligence of the capture of the Isle of Bourbon. This information was obtained by the Lord Keith, from a prize brig, which sailed from that island on the 12th of Oct. The town and garrison of St. Paul's surrendered 21st Sept. La Caroline French frigate, and the Europe and Stretham, East-India ships, were found riding at anchor in the harbour, and taken possession of. The frigate and Stretham had been sent to the Cape of Good Hope. The latter had a full

cargo, composed of her own and what was saved from the cargo of the Europe, which had been landed; but unfortunately the storehouse in which it was deposited took fire, and the greater part of it was destroyed. The Europe being a light ship, was dispatched to Bombay to take in a cargo.

The force to which the Isle of Bourbon surrendered, consisted of the Boadicia, Neveide, and Sirius frigates, and Otter sloop of war, under the command of commodore Rowley; part of the 56th regiment and some Bombay Seapoys, under lieut. col. Keating. No English officer was killed in the attack on St. Paul's, and our loss was otherwise inconsiderable.

The number of troops to be sent to India will not exceed 3000.

JAN. 11.

We understand that a letter has been received from the Prince of Wales Island, from an officer of distinction, which states that it had been announced to upwards of 150 officers of the Madras army, "their services were no longer necessary," in consequence, as the writer says, of their having declared their determination not to draw their swords against their brother officers. It is stated in letters from Madras of August the 16th, and Ceylon the 22d, that the king's army, under the command of Colonel Hare, had taken the field against the company's troops.

Reports of a very unfortunate nature are in circulation respecting the last accounts from the East-Indies. It is stated that the whole army of Madras is in a state of mutiny, and that mutineers have taken possession of Seringapatam and Hyderabad. The king's troops, to the amount of 11,000 men, had been put in motion to suppress them, and reinforcements had been sent from Ceylon and the Cape for the same purpose. Other accounts, however, describe the disturbances as having been by no means so formidable.

A corps of 2,200 Hessians lately received orders to march for Spain; but before they reached the Rhine no less than 2000 of them deserted.

The whole amount of the military employed in the expedition to Walcheren exceeded 28,000 men, of which number more than 22,000 were returned on the sick list, not less than 3000 have died of fevers.

JAN. 12.

Letters from Holland of a late date mention that king Louis had returned from Paris, and that apprehensions of an incorporation with France no longer existed.

The American frigate John Adams, previous to her arrival off Dover, touched at St. Maloes, where she landed a Mr. Fenwick with dispatches for Mr. Armstrong. She has since proceeded to a Dutch port, (after landing a messenger with dispatches for Mr. Pinkney,) where she will wait for gen. Armstrong's answer. It is also said, she carries to Holland the annual interest, in hard dollars, of the loan contracted with that government during the revolutionary war.

Col. Burr, formerly Vice-President of the United States, arrived at Hanover on the 16th Dec.

We have heard that an American vessel has been brought into Plymouth by one of his majesty's cruisers, having on board a secret dispatch from Mr. Armstrong, at Paris, to the secretary and president of the United States. This dispatch is stated to be of an interesting nature, and to disclose facts of the highest importance to government. On the news of the vessel being brought in, Mr. Pinkney applied to ministers to allow the dispatch in question to be delivered unopened into his possession.—We have not been able to learn whether he succeeded in his application. The vessel in question was bound from Dieppe to America.

The important news from America, contained in our papers of yesterday and to-day, relate to three subjects; the finances of the country, which we have less concern; the conduct to be pursued in relation to Mr. Jackson; and the measures proposed upon the resumption of our orders in council. The last is by far the most momentous topic; for upon it, will ultimately depend the question of peace or war.

The resolutions proposed by Mr. Troup, a member of the House of Representatives, if adopted as a law, would, we apprehend, be decisive of the determination of the Americans to appeal to the sword. Exclusive of the consideration of this melancholy result, which must spring from the enactment of them, it will, we apprehend, be evident to all dispassionate understandings, that the resolutions are in themselves partial and unjust, in every way in which they can become the subject of investigation. 1. They are unjust, in professing to deal indiscriminately between us and the French; 2. They are unjust, in affecting to be a mere imitation of our orders in council; 3. And they are unjust to the Portuguese and Spaniards.

Upon the hostile act of congress, resulting from the conduct of Mr. Jackson, we have the less to say, because America has certainly sustained no ordinary provocation in this instance. We have never yet given our opinion upon the subject, and shall now therefore state it.

First, then, assuming as a fact, that which considerable doubt is still entertained as to the spirit of his instructions; yet without a knowledge of this, our minister's deviation from his directions, to America? It is sufficient according to the doctrine cited from Vattel, an engagement that the minister forming him; it was not necessary to prove or to say this. "To refuse with honour, (says a law authority on the public law) to ratify what has been concluded on by virtue of a power, it is necessary that the government should have strong and solid reasons, and that it shew in particular that its Minister has violated his instructions." Hence it appears (if this argument be well founded of which we have no doubt) that the offence given to America was perfectly unnecessary and gratuitous; the real merits of the question being thus: "Did Mr. Erskine violate his instructions?" Not "did the American government know that he violated them?" And if the establishment of the former position, Mr. Jackson would have found ample exercise for his talents, without undertaking the task of proving that men knew that which they declared that they did not know.

The importance, however, of the preceding observations, though we trust not their correctness, (as founded upon an assumed state of things,) will be materially altered by the following most important information from France, which reached us at a late hour last night:—

Paris, January 1.

"The merchants have lately had several conferences with the ministers of his majesty, on the present state of affairs; and have submitted to them, that trade had, since the Berlin and Milan Decrees, taken quite a new direction, and is carried on by very circuitous routes, and by persons disfavoured by the real merchants.

"The ministers announced that his majesty's intention was, that neutrals might trade freely with France, and France with neutral countries; that the above-mentioned decrees had been pointed only against the commerce of England; and that if they had been interpreted, and a false meaning given to them, the merchants should make representations, which would be favourably heard.

"It already appears to be agreed, that the visit at sea, a measure of policy adopted by all nations, is not a violation of neutral rights, and that the Decree of Milan was intended only to prevent the visit directed by the orders of council, of Nov. 1807; by which neutrals were obliged to go to England, and there pay a tribute. It is understood, that the embargo and provisional sequestration of American vessels in France, were in consequence of the embargo laid on America followed by the non-intercourse act; that we therefore consider the Americans who came into our ports, as disguised Englishmen; and that since America had repealed her laws, ours should fall on themselves.

"The merchants flatter themselves from these communications, and from the news lately received, that America was not disposed to yield to England, that the political retaliations between the two countries, for the establishment of perfect harmony, would become active; and as it seems that both nations have a well pronounced interest in their success, they will probably agree on some provisional basis, and permit trade to resume its relations, reserving the ulterior discussion on the great question of maritime rights."

The public relations between this country and America, such as they appeared upon the face of the last American news, will, as we before hinted, be materially altered, by the contents of this important letter from France, the ruler of which here, as we see, gives us the whole grounds of dispute with America, and concedes not a little to us: "It already appears to be agreed, that the visit at sea (or in other words the right of search for which we have so long contended,) is a measure of policy adopted by all nations, and is not a violation of neutral rights, and that the Decree of Milan, was intended only to prevent the visit directed by the Orders in Council, of Nov. 1808; by which neutrals were obliged to go to England and there pay a tribute."

Warmly as we have ever defended our Orders in Council, we cannot still believe that this our enemy's change of tone has been entirely produced by their operation upon his commerce; and are not without our suspicions that there is an indication here, of a more general tendency, real or pretended, to accommodation. Between France and America, however, if the preceding intelligence be authentic, little now remains for adjustment, and it on the removal of the American embargo towards France, the French commercial edicts fall to the ground, our Orders in Council, (for which the promulgation of the edicts was the avowed and just cause,) must of course stop with them, without the necessity of a specific treaty.

[Times.]