

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

By the schooner Water Witch, 33 days from Bourdeaux. Translated for the (Norfolk) Public Ledger.

WARSAW, NOV. 27.

We have intelligence from the corps of the army under Prince Schwarzenberg, to the 14th and 15th of this month.

When admiral Tschitschagoff advanced upon Minsk, he left a considerable corps behind him, under the command of generals Sacken and Esau, with orders to attack the Prince Schwarzenberg's rear if he should attempt to follow Tschitschagoff. It was probable that this corps was intended to act against the grand duchy of Warsaw, if the plan of operations against Prince Schwarzenberg had succeeded.

The Russian army attacked the rear guard of the Saxon and Austrian corps under the command of general Regnier, and the Saxon troops lately arrived under gen. Durette.

There was some sharp fighting on the 14th and 15th inst. in which the Russians lost 1500 men killed, and 500 prisoners. By information that has been just received from Wilna, more important results may be expected.

Already a courier has arrived here from general Regnier, bringing intelligence to general Dutailis commandant of Warsaw, with intelligence that the Prince Schwarzenberg, had appeared suddenly with the auxiliary corps, near Izhelin, and had a general action with the Russian army. At the departure of the courier, 3000 prisoners had been made, with all the baggage, and considerable number of wagons. The enemy were pursued on the road to Prutgans.

WILNA, DEC. 2.

An arrival from the headquarters at Borisow, gives the result of those grand movements, which we announced as having taken place on the Duna and the Borystines. It is now very clear what were the dispositions made by the Russians, in order to stop the march of the Grand Army from reaching its winter quarters. The plan was profoundly conceived, but the execution of it was not quite so easy against one of the greatest captains the world ever produced, and the first of armies.

The Prince of Schwartzburg was on the 10th of November at Slinin, distant from Borisow 30 leagues. The Emperor arrived on the 27th of November at the last named place.

It is now certain that all our communications are well established.

PARIS, DEC. 14.

The Emperor slept on the 29th of November at Moldeschenow, which is on the great road from Minsk to Wilna. On the 28th there was a great battle fought with the corps under Tschitschakoff. This was a dreadful affair; we have taken from the enemy many thousand prisoners.

Moldeschenow, which in many maps is written Molodgiano, is about 25 leagues from Wilna, and 12 or 13 from Minsk. Berezyna, where is stationed the duke Reggio, is about 15 leagues north-east of Moldeschenow.

Dec. 16.—Letters from Warsaw, Wilna and Posen, say, that the divisions of Durette, Lagrange and Loisen, the Neapolitan division, the Guards of Tuskany and Turin, the battalions of the Imperial Guards, have reached the Niemen. This mass of forces amount to 120,000 men, and will cause the Russians to pause. The union of the 2d, 9th, and 10th corps, the Saxons and Austrians, will present an imposing force, & makes the grand army superior to what it was at the beginning of the campaign. In front and rear of Moscow the Russians have made the country a desert: Can they then maintain themselves on this side of Duna and the Borystines? That is a question which at this time present itself.

Twenty-Ninth Bulletin of the Grand Army.

Moldetschno, 3d Dec. 1812.

The weather was very good till the 6th Nov. and the movements of the army were executed with the greatest success. The cold weather commenced the 7th: from that time we have lost every night many hundreds of horses, which died while mounted on guard. Since our arrival at Smolensk, we have lost many horses belonging to the cavalry and artillery. The Russian army of Volhynie was opposed to our right. Our right quitted the line of operations of Minsk, and took for that of Warsaw. The Emperor was apprised at Smolensk, on the 9th, of this change in the line of operations; and presumed how the enemy would act. However difficult it appeared to him to put himself in motion in this severe season, the news state of things compelled him to do so. He hoped to arrive at Minsk, or at least on the Berezyna, before the enemy—he left Smolensk

on the 11th, the 16th he arrived at Kraspol. The cold weather which commenced the 7th, increased daily, and from the 14th to the 15th and 16th, the thermometer was at 16 and 18 below freezing. (Requiescat.) The roads were covered with ice, the horses of the cavalry, artillery and baggage, perished every night, not by hundreds but by thousands, particularly those of France and Germany. More than thirty thousand horses perished in a few days; our cavalry were dismounted, our artillery and our baggage wagons were without horses. It became necessary to destroy a great part of our artillery, provisions, and munitions of war. This army in so fine a condition on the 6th, was very different on the 14th, almost without cavalry, without artillery, and without wagons—we could not guard without cavalry more than a quarter of a league—without artillery, without artillery we could not risk a battle or maintain a position, we must march, not to be forced to a battle, which the want of artillery and cavalry prevented us from wishing—we must occupy a certain space not to be turned, and that without cavalry which protects and unites the columns. These difficulties, together with excessive cold, rendered our situation distressing. Men whom nature had not gifted with that fortitude which places them above the frowns of fortune, appeared alarmed, lost their gaiety, their good humour, and saw nothing before them but misfortunes and catastrophes; those whom she had created buoyant to every thing, preserved their gaiety and ordinary manners, and saw a new glory in the various difficulties they had to surmount.

The enemy who saw on the roads the traces of this awful calamity which attended the French army, sought to profit by it. They filled up all their columns with Cossacks, who carried off, like Arabs in the deserts, the carriages and train that were left. This contemptible cavalry, who make nothing but noise, and is not capable of breaking one company of voltigeurs, render themselves formidable by favor of circumstances. Notwithstanding the enemy had reason to repent of all the serious enterprises which they undertook. They were beaten by the Vice King and lost many men. The duke of Elchingen, who with 3000 men, composed the rear guard, and scaled the ramparts of Smolensk. He was surrounded and found himself in a critical situation—he extricated himself with that intrepidity which distinguishes him. After having kept the enemy at a distance the whole of the 18th, and constantly repulsed them, he made a movement at night, by the right flank, passed the Borystines, and disappointed all the calculations of the enemy. The 19th the enemy passed the Borystines, at Orza, and the Russian army fatigued after having lost many men, gave over this enterprise.—The army of Volhynie had marched since the 16th upon Minsk, and was going against Borisow. General Demkrowski defended the head of the bridge of Borisow with 3000 men. The 23d they were attacked and forced to evacuate that position. The enemy then passed the Berezyna marching upon Balli, the division of Lambert composing the van guard; the second corps commanded by the duke of Reggio, who was at Tcheroin, had received orders to advance to Borisow, to insure the passage of the Berezyna. The 24th the duke of Reggio encountered the division of Lambert, 4 leagues from Borisow, attacked and beat them, made 2000 prisoners, took 6 pieces of cannon, 500 wagons of the baggage of Volhynies army and drove the enemy to the right bank of the Berezyna. General Berthier, with the 4th cuirassiers, distinguished himself by a handsome charge, the enemy only saved themselves by burning the bridge which was more than 300 toises long.

Nevertheless the enemy occupied all the passages of the Berezyna, this river is 40 toises broad, and was filled with floating ice, but its borders are covered with marshes 300 toises long and which renders it a difficult obstacle to overcome. The enemy's general had placed his four divisions in different passes when he supposed the French army would attempt a passage.—The 26th at day break the emperor after having deceived the enemy by divers movements made on the 25th, marched against the village of Studzianca and caused likewise two bridges to be thrown over the river, notwithstanding a division of the enemy were opposed. The duke of Reggio passed, attacked the enemy and kept them engaged two hours. The enemy retired to the head of the bridge of Borisow. General Legrand, an officer of the first merit was severely but not dangerously wounded, the army passed on the 26th and 27th. The duke Bellune commanding the 9th corps had received orders to follow the movement of the duke of Reggio to compose the rear guard, and to detain the Russian army of the Dwna which followed him. The division of Partonaux composed the rear guard of this corps. The 27th at noon the duke of Bellune arrived with two divisions at the bridge of Studzianca. The division of Partonaux left Borisow at night; one brigade of this division which formed the rear guard, and which was ordered to burn the bridges, set off at 7 in the evening, it arrived between 10 and 11 o'clock, endeavored to find its first brigade, and the general of division, who had set out two hours before. The search was fruitless, they then became uneasy. All that we have been able to hear since is that this first brigade set out at 5 o'clock, missed their way at 6, took the right instead of the left and went two or three leagues in that direction, that in the night it chilled with cold, it was routed by the fire of the enemy which they took for the French army, thus surrounded, they must have surrendered. This cruel mistake has lost us 3000 infantry, 300 horses and 3 pieces of artillery. It is rumored that the general of the division was not with the column but had marched on a head. All the army having passed on the morning of the 28th, the duke of Bellune guarded the head of the bridge on the left bank, the duke of Reggio with all the army were on the right bank.

Borisow having been evacuated, the armies of Dwna and Volhynie communicated, they concerted an attack; the 28th at day break the duke of Reggio caused the emperor to be informed that he was attacked; an half an hour afterwards the duke of Bellune knew it on the left bank, the army was under arms. The duke of Elchingen went to the assistance of the duke de Reggio and the duke of Trevis followed him. The fight became brisk, the enemy wished to break our right, general Doumerc commanding the 5th division of Cuirassiers and composing part of the 2 corps who remained on the Dwna, ordered a charge of the cavalry by the 3th and 5th of the Cuirassiers, at the moment when the legion of the Vistula was engaged in the woods to pierce the centre of the enemy which was beaten and put to rout. These brave Cuirassiers surrounded successively six battalions of infantry and put to rout the enemy's cavalry which came to the assistance of its infantry; 6000 prisoners 2 colours and 6 pieces of cannon fell into our hands.

The duke de Bellune caused the enemy to be vigorously charged, made 5 to 8000 prisoners, and drove them out of the reach of the cannon of the brigade. General Fournier made a handsome charge of the cavalry.—In the battle of Berezyna, the army of Volhynie suffered much.—The duke de Reggio was wounded, but not dangerously, by a ball which he received in his side. The morning of the 29th we remained on the field of battle. We had two routs to those; that of Minsk and that of Wilna. The road to Minsk is through a forest and uninhabitable marshes, and it would have been impossible for the army to subsist. The road to Wilna on the contrary, is through a very fine country. The army without cavalry, with but little ammunition, very much fatigued with fifty days march, bringing after it, the sick and wounded of so many battles, required rest.—The 30th, the head quarters were at Ptechutin; the 1st of December at Sliaki, and the 3d at Moledeitcho where the army received the first convoys from Wilna. All the wounded officers and soldiers and every thing that numbered us, such as baggage &c. were sent to Wilna. The result of the expedition just made, is, that it is necessary for the army to recruit itself, to remount the cavalry, to provide artillery and obtain provisions. Its greatest want is rest. The provisions and horses have arrived.

General Bourcier has already more than 20,000 horses in the different depots. The artillery has repaired its loss. The generals, the officers and the soldiers, have suffered much with fatigue and want. Many have lost their baggage in consequence of the loss of their horses—some by the ambuscades of the Cossacks. The Cossacks have taken many stragglers and engineers employed in making drafts, and wounded officers who marched without precaution, preferring to run risks, than to march with convoys. The reports of the general officers will show those officers and soldiers who have most distinguished themselves, in the details of these memorable events. In all his movements, the emperor has marched in the middle of his guards, the cavalry commanded by marshal duke of Istria, and the infantry commanded by the duke of Dantzick. His majesty is satisfied with the good conduct that his guards have shown—they have always been ready to go wherever circumstances required—but circumstances have always been such, that his simple presence has sufficed to inspire confidence and ensure success.

The Prince of Neufchatel, the grand-marshal, the grand-master of the horse, and all the aid-de-camps and military officers of the household of the Emperor, have always accompanied his majesty. Our cavalry was so dismounted, that we could scarcely unite the officers who had horses, to form four companies of 150 men each. The generals performed the duties of captains, and the colonels those of sub-officers. This squadron, commanded by general Grouchy, and under the direction of the King of Naples, never lost sight of the Emperor in all his motions. The health of his majesty was never better.

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

ANNAPOLIS, THURSDAY, FEB. 11, 1813.

"Democritus, or the Laughing Philosopher," in answer to Senex in last week's Maryland Republican, we think of too personal a nature to admit of a place in this paper. It is our wish to avoid personalities as much as possible, and we shall descend to them only when compelled.

The committee of foreign relations have at length made their report, which embraces nothing but a view of the present state of our differences with Great-Britain. The following is the substance of a bill which accompanied the report:—

After the termination of the war by treaty, no person, not a natural born citizen of this country, or naturalized, or residing here at the time of the treaty, and having previously declared his intention of becoming a citizen, can be employed as a seaman on board any American vessel, public or private.

Naturalized citizens offering themselves as seamen on board any public vessel, must produce to the commander certificates of their naturalization; but if on board any private vessel, to the collector of the district where she belongs. The president is to give further directions respecting the requisite proofs of nativity or citizenship. There shall be a list of the crew certified by the collector. No passenger, a subject of a foreign country, shall be admitted on board any American vessel without a passport from the proper officers of government where such person belongs. The consuls or commercial agents of foreign nations at peace with the U. S. may state objections against any subject or citizen of the nation they represent, from being employed on board any American vessel, and be present at the investigation of the proofs by the collector.—Every commander of a public vessel, shall forfeit, on conviction, one thousand dollars for each person so unlawfully employed.—The commander and owner of a private vessel shall each forfeit five hundred dollars for each foreigner received on board, contrary to the provisions of this law, although his name be entered on the certified list of the crew. Masters and commanders of public or private vessels shall be allowed to make up deficiencies in their crews, in any foreign port, by permission of the government thereof. The employment of seamen to be reciprocal between the United States and any other nation with which there is a treaty. The provisions of the law shall not extend to any nation which has prohibited American citizens from entering their vessels, or which shall suffer commanders of their public vessels to impress any person from on board an American vessel. Five years continued residence in the territory of the U. S. necessary, after the treaty, for citizenship.

The plan which Mr. Troup has sketched out for the conquest of Canada in his speech on the new army bill, carries in its appearance, something rather wild and extravagant. Another embargo, he thinks, would bring the enemy to our feet! "an embargo, rigidly executed, embracing as well the coasting as foreign trade."—As if the country had not been sufficiently cursed with measures of this nature; as if they had not been often enough tried by government to prove their utility, we see a legislator gravely rise in the united councils of the nation, to recommend an embargo as the best mode of conquering an extensive country!—Have they not heretofore been found inefficient to coerce belligerents to respect our rights? Have they not accumulated miseries upon ourselves? It will be recollected that it was the embargo of 1807 that drove so many mariners from different parts of the Union, to abandon their country and enter into foreign service—Some "worked their way to Halifax, and fled from the jaws of famine into the arms of the British navy," and afterwards made a part of that number of impressed seamen which has been loudly and bitterly complained about. The effects have been too sensibly felt, and are yet too fresh upon the minds of the people, to make them willingly submit to undergo another.—Some other consequences which resulted from it were, to teach European nations that they could live without us—to turn the course of trade into other channels—to impoverish and bankrupt thousands—and demoralize the citizens, by introducing among them a system of smuggling unknown before to this country. But the effects would be far different now, says Mr. Troup.—It would keep our commerce safe at home, while the enemy would be harassed by our privateers—distress the enemy at home and abroad—give tenfold vigour to the war—and facilitate the reduction of Canada, by creating partial scarcity, if not absolute distress. These ideas are by no means novel, for it was thought, previous to the first embargo, "that all men were fed at the opening of our hand," and that by threatening them with starvation we might force them to

respect us; but the effect was the very reverse, for they scoffed at the extravagant notion. He could not then have been serious in recommending a measure which remains no longer problematical in its consequences, but which cannot fail to produce incalculable mischief to the country. That this has been the tendency of a great portion of the measures of our government for several years past, cannot, when their effects are candidly viewed, be questioned. But the war-men in congress always find a subterfuge in the failure of their schemes, however theoretical in the opposition made by federalists. They must bear the burden of all the disgrace, while the authors of the mischief are buoyed up by the confidence of the people. The failure of the war, the failure of the loan, is all attributed to their opposition. Can it be supposed that they who oppose the war from principle will embark in it? Ought it to be expected? But it is rather extraordinary, that a country inhabited by nearly eight millions of people, the majority of whom profess themselves democrats, and in favour of war, that a sufficient force cannot be raised to conquer a petty province of the enemy of about 400,000 inhabitants?—While democrats who brawl loudest respecting the indignities offered by the British to this government show such reluctance in entering the army, it certainly would be decorous in them to cease their clamours against federalists; for they are not the authors of the evil, and should not be made accountable for its consequences.

Quære.—How would a word of condolence from Joel Barlow, Mr. Madison's messenger, sound in the ear of Buonaparte if he should be so fortunate as to meet him at Wilna?—Would he be willing to give up the millions of our merchants money he has had for safe-keeping, or will he wish to make use of it by way of enabling him to prepare for another campaign?

Democrats in favour of a Navy!

Not long ago it was said, that the democrats had fallen so suddenly and violently in love with a navy, from the gallant exploits of some of our commanders, that they not only intended, by every possible exertion, to increase it from the national resources, but likewise from the funds of several states. South-Carolina, Virginia and Pennsylvania, seemed to vie with each other for the palm of liberality, for each was to present the United States with a 74, besides other vessels of less magnitude. The South-Carolina unfortunately grounded on a democratic bank, in the city of Charleston; The Virginia, we suppose, has been driven up high and dry in the Potomac, as she has not lately been heard of, and the Pennsylvania, stranded in the patriotic senate of that state.

A motion has lately been made in the legislature of Massachusetts to build a 74 for the government, but the motives of the mover, who is a real Madsonian, have been very justly questioned. A writer in a Boston paper observes, that it is far from his wish to insinuate that there was a small game of cunning to be played off by this proposition, or that the honourable mover could have reasoned thus:—"If the federalists oppose this motion, we shall be clamorous about their inconsistency; we shall make the welkin ring with their want of patriotism; but if they fall into the snare which we lay for them, we shall render them odious to the people for quadrupling the taxes in one year, for an object which the democrats have always opposed.—We shall lay it all to governor Strong, who must approve the act if it passes, and to the house of representatives, a majority of whom are federalists—we shall therefore call it a federal measure—we shall enlarge upon its cruelty at being laid when the people are so much oppressed by war? That this would be the language used is more than probable, and the charges would be so often rung on this democratic alarm bell, that the people, how much they might wish to see a respectable navy,

would be frightened at the Massachusetts, before she could be launched from the stocks. What, therefore, may finally be the determination of that body we do not presume to say; but considering that she has suffered so much more than any other state by em- ployment in war, &c. we should not be at all surpris'd if the contemplated 74 should meet with so heavy a broadside from public policy, that she must ultimately sink.

The public attention seems almost wholly diverted from our own melancholy situation, to gaze on the passing events in Europe. Our destinies are so connected with those of European nations that there is scarcely any occurrence that does not awaken the most lively interest, and have at least a remote effect upon ourselves.—As we value the freedom purchased by the toil and blood of our ancestors, as we look for its continuance, we ought to cherish the most fervent friendship for the Russians who are struggling for the liberties of the world; and implore omniscience to crown their arms with final success. The bulletin which we this day publish, exhibits but a sorry picture of the fallen greatness of Buonaparte, whose whole course through life has been one continued tissue of falsehood, treachery and blood. The emotions which are occasioned in this country by his defeat, are as opposite in their natures as light from darkness.—While one party view him as he really is, the scourge of all nations, are congratulating themselves with the prospect of his total overthrow, and a restoration of universal peace—others pronounce that his death would be the greatest misfortune that could befall this country, and are astonished that any should rejoice at his disasters. To these last leave the exclusive pleasure of fostering their affection for the tyrant. We believe that every native born citizen of this country, who values its interest, would cheerfully unite in anthems of praise to the valour and heroism of the Russians. Every Cossack's brow should be decked with a wreath of glory—Immortal honours should be decreed them, commemorative of their gallant exploits. In every battle they have fought our interest has been deeply concerned, for it has stayed the torrent which was fast approaching towards universal despotism.

For the Maryland Gazette. There was a time when it would have been thought a most cruel libel upon our countrymen, to suppose that a generous struggle of a great nation, in defence of its liberty and independence, would not excite their sympathy. Priding ourselves upon our own independence, it was believed that we could not feel too deep and lively an interest in the efforts of any other people to save themselves from the cruel yoke of an unprincipled tyrant. When the revolution commenced in France, we rejoiced in the success of its armies, and deplored every reverse of fortune which befel them. For the liberation of the people of Ireland from the galling tyranny of England, the prayers of our lovers of liberty have often been heard, and success to every people, of whatever clime, and under whatever circumstances, who were contending in the cause of national independence, was the wish of every real American. Indeed, by advertising to the resolves and speeches of many of our patriots some twelve or fifteen years ago, we will see, that it was considered the bounden duty of the people of America to aid every effort of any people to assert their independence.

This doctrine, once so fashionable, was never questioned, until the people of Spain generously resolved to risk every thing in defence of their independence, and in resisting the daring and flagitious schemes of the great Napoleon to enslave and destroy them. Yet as soon as the news of the Spanish "independence" reached us, the lovers of liberty and independence changed their sentiments, and French disasters were still lamented, and French victories were still rejoiced in. That he may succeed in the conquest of Spain and Portugal is most ardently wished, although by such success the people of this country would be deprived of the best and now only remaining market for their flour, and of the surplus produce. Yet more, if Spain was subjugated, or from any cause the British army now employed in the peninsula was driven from it, the British would have in that army a disposable force of veteran and experienced troops, under able and skillful officers, for which she would want