

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, SEPTEMBER 6, 1781.

L O N D O N, May 14.

From the London Evening Post.

WE are sorry to see that the people of Barbados are, in addition to their calamities, in a warm dispute with their governor and council. Whether the latter, without the concurrence of the assembly, had a legal right or not to establish the laws which are the subject of complaint, we pretend not to be competent judges. But allowing that they had the right, policy ought to have restrained them from putting it in execution. At the best they were unfortunate in timing their order; for it was issued and published but a few days before the island was torn to pieces by a tremendous hurricane, and if it would otherwise have been proper to continue it, yet we conceive it should have been delayed or suspended for some reasonable time in consequence of that general disaster. In the mean time it must be confessed, that the people of our islands, as well as our colonies, have been generally so much disposed to quarrel with and complain of their governors, and it must be allowed on the other hand, that many governors have not been less prone to invade the just rights and liberties of the people. It is to be hoped therefore, that due regard will be paid to the complaint, and the merits of the dispute brought to impartial investigation, that may be done in this, as we hope it will hereafter be in all similar cases. For, however necessary it may be to support the just authority of the king's governor, it is equally necessary not to countenance in any unwarrantable and unprecedented encroachments upon the liberties of the people. It is well known that the Morning Post is quite impartial paper, which makes the above paragraph rather to be wondered at; but facts will always speak for themselves, and truths cannot be denied.

Six Dutch men of war and 14 transports, sailed from Helvoet on Sunday last. It is supposed their destination is for the West-Indies.

Some dispatches have been received from Lisbon, dated May 12, which contain an account of a large fleet of Spanish ships, under convoy of 8 sail of the line and 4 frigates, passing that place May 3, but their destination was not known.

Extra of a letter from Paris, May 9.

By letters from Bern of the 4th inst. we learn, that a courier arrived there that night with the news, that the peasants of that canton, to the number of 10,000 men, had taken up arms: that they had seized upon Purne and Grovers, and had threatened Fribourgh. The magistracy of Bern being assembled immediately, sent 8000 militia, composed of infantry and dragoons, with a train of artillery to the assistance of that place.

By a letter from an officer on board the Union of war, we receive the melancholy intelligence, that while the British force was before Gibraltar, the Spanish army were so very successful in throwing shells into the town, that almost the whole was levelled with the ground. The store of provisions were set fire to, and totally destroyed. A number of the inhabitants lost their lives in this dreadful conflagration, and so complete the havock and demolition, that the remaining inhabitants were forced out to encamp on the rock in the field. He writes that it is perfectly impossible to give any just description of the general terror and confusion, nor to estimate the loss that sustained. Had it not been for the succours sent in by the fleet, and which, by being detained in the garrison, escaped the ruin, the whole town and army must have perished from want.

A letter from Amsterdam by the Flanders mail contains the following article: "It seems determined by the states to fit out the largest fleet of men of war they ever had before. They have dispatched orders to all parts to get shipwrights, and to spare no pains to procure the best hands. Some English are come, who meet with great encouragement. An embargo is laid on all merchant ships, and the sailors taken out to man the men of war as fast as they can be got ready for sea; so that in short time we shall have one of the most powerful fleets in Europe."

The French and Spaniards have taken within a short time, about 30 sail of British ships near the channel, 6 of which are stout privateers; this is a proof that we are not lords of the ocean.

If the Jamaica fleet are taken, as there is too much reason to apprehend, it will not only give an immediate blow to public credit, but will mount

the price of insurance almost to a prohibition on importation and exportation. A circumstance not to be thought of but with horror by a commercial nation.

May 31. Advices from the Hague say, that a fleet will soon sail from the Texel of 7 sail of the line, with 2000 land forces, who are certainly designed for the West-Indies, where the arms of France are to co-operate with them to regain St. Eustatia, and the settlements taken by the English.

PROVIDENCE, August 1.

Extra of a letter from a gentleman at Lanborough, Massachusetts-bay, to his friend in this town, dated July 27, 1781.

"We have just received advice from the Mohawk river, that a party of Indians and Tories, of about 200, came down, a few days since, to Conojahara, 60 miles above Albany; they were discovered by a part of a regiment of Albany militia, of 70 men; who by craft led them on to where the most of the troops lay in ambush in 3 divisions; the front fired upon them as they advanced; when the enemy, not knowing their numbers, turned to the right, when they were again fired upon; they then attempted to file to the left, where they were again repulsed; when they turned to the right about, and ran off in the greatest confusion, leaving behind them their killed and wounded, and 150 packs behind them; our people being so much inferior in numbers did not think it prudent to follow them. The number of slain and taken is variously reported. There has lately been a small scouting party of our militia, about half a dozen killed and taken near Chimney-point, opposite to Crown-point."

PHILADELPHIA, August 23.

Tuesday arrived here, sent in by the ship Royal Louis, capt. Decature of this port, one of his tyrannic majesty's armed brigs called the Active, commanded by George Augustus Delanoe; this brig about the first of July was sent express from New-York to the West-Indies by the admiral for more naval assistance; the brig after touching at Barbados, found the British fleet at Antigua under the command of admiral Hood, Rodney having failed for England, with his plunder, in the Gibraltar, accompanied by the Panther and Triumph. Letters by the Active say, that a fleet of 12 or 13 sail of British ships of the line were to sail to the relief of New-York on or about the 7th inst. and may be hourly looked for on this coast.

The brig Active, on the 7th of July, took up at sea in a boat, capt. Fisher and 7 hands, late of the brig James of this port, who on her passage to Havana, the 3d of July, overlet in a squall, when 8 or 9 of her people were drowned, the rest got into the boat, and were luckily taken up as mentioned above.

Besides the above brig, capt. Decature has taken the sloop Phoenix, of New-York, which was captured by a French frigate, retaken by the British sloop of war Swallow, an officer of which was conducting her to New-York, when capt. Decature altered her course for this port.

Aug. 25. By a gentleman who left the Texel about the 28th of May last, we learn that the Dutch are exerting every nerve in the marine department, and that about the middle of June they expected to send to sea a fleet of 40 sail of the line and 20 frigates. That the congress of ministers at Vienna was adjourned, England not being willing that the minister from the United States of America should have a seat there. He also informs, that a loan was opened in Holland, and filling fast, for these states, and that it was supposed from circumstances, &c. that the United Provinces would, in a short time after his sailing, formally acknowledge the independence of America.

The ship Marquis Fayette, from France for America, with cloathing, &c. was taken off Cape Clear by a 40 gun ship and two 74's, after an engagement of three hours with the 40 gun ship before the others came up.

From Rivington's New-York Gazette of Aug. 15.

By a vessel which arrived on Monday evening in about 50 hours from the Chesapeake, we are informed that earl Cornwallis had left gen. O'Hara with the guards and some other corps at Portsmouth, and proceeding up the river, took post at York-town, which occasioned the marquis de la Fayette, to cross from Burwell's ferry to Williamsburg, about seven miles from York-town, so that should the marquis be disposed to hazard another

bout, we trust the noble earl will not disappoint him.

Last Thursday night 8 rebel whale-boats made their appearance at Flushing bay tide, on Long-Island, when some of them landed a few men; but as they did not like the appearance of things, the country being very soon alarmed, they speedily embarked, and made the best of their way to the rebel shore. They carried away nothing, and said they only wanted a few prisoners.

ANNAPOLIS, September 6.

Extra of a letter from general Giff to governor Lee, Baltimore, September 4, 1781.

"I have the pleasure to inform you that a cutter of 18 guns has this moment arrived here with dispatches from the count de Grasse for his Excellency general Washington.

Captain Arme de la Lune, commander of the cutter, informs, that the French fleet, consisting of 28 sail of the line, arrived in our bay the 26th ult. with 3000 land forces, which are landed, to form a junction with the marquis la Fayette; part of the fleet have blocked up the British vessels in York-river; they have taken the Loyalist of 22 guns at that river, and on their way to the Capes took a packet from Charles-town, with lord Rawdon on board, who is now a prisoner with the fleet, most part of which lay between the middle ground and cape Henry.

"I do myself the honour to enclose you a list of the fleet of our great and good ally now in the bay."

List of the count de Grasse's fleet now in the Chesapeake.

Ships of the line; one 110, three 84, nineteen 74, four 64, one 50. Frigates; two 44, two 32, one 18.

This intelligence is corroborated by letters from a gentleman of the marquis la Fayette's family to his Excellency our governor, with this further circumstance, that the fleet from Rhode-Island, under the command of Monsieur de Barras, was hourly expected to form a junction with the count de Grasse.

The citizens of Maryland and Virginia are called upon, by their patriotism, honour, and interest, to exert every nerve in providing supplies for the allied forces. Should their important designs fail, or their operations be impeded by the neglect or want of exertions in these states, it would reflect eternal disgrace in their character, and preclude any hopes of future success.

Extra of a letter from a gentleman in Baltimore to his friend in this city, dated Sept. 5, 1781.

"By major Gibbs, just from Philadelphia, we are informed, that a British fleet of 14 ships of the line arrived at the Hook on Wednesday last; that they failed again on Friday, supposed for our Bay, being joined by 6 ships of the line, which were at New York. This may be depended on."

Departed this life, on Friday the 24th ult. about 7 o'clock, A. M. in the 50th year of her age, Mrs. RACHAEL DARNALL, a lady whose transcendent virtues and great personal accomplishments placed her in the most exalted point of view, and justly entitled her to the love and admiration of all who knew her. She was open, affable, and engaging in conversation; in her friendship, warm, steady, and sincere; in her charity unbounded, constantly seeking for an opportunity to gratify the generous feelings of a benevolent heart; her relations and intimate friends feel the most poignant distress, the widow, the orphan, and all who groan under the weight of misfortunes, have just cause to bewail her departure.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of Charles county, at the court-house in said county, on Wednesday the 15th day of August, Anno Domini, 1781,

WALTER HANSON, Esq; in the chair,

JOHN GWINN, clerk.

Resolved, That it is absolutely necessary to support the credit of the paper money emitted at the last session of the general assembly.

Resolved, That the said paper money ought to be taken and received at par with specie, agreeable to the association recommended by the general assembly; that Mess. Walter Hanson, John Digges, John Marshall, Hezekiah Dent, John Parnham, William Wilkinson, Joshua Sanders, Walter Hanson, Jennifer, Josias Hawkins, Gerard B. Caufin, Michael J. Stone, William Harrison, John Dent, Samuel Hanson, jun. Thomas Stone, and Samuel Hanson of Samuel, be, and are hereby appointed a committee to see that the said association is observed and kept, and that any two or more of the committee have power to