

MARYLAND GAZETTE.

T H U R S D A Y, J A N U A R Y 30, 1783.

PETERSBURGH, June 2.

THE return of the list of the population of the district of Schuylka, delivered this year to the chancery of the government of Missouri, offers a singular fact. There lives in that district a peasant named Fédor B...

PARIS, October 25. By letters received yesterday from Paris, we are informed of the arrival at that port of two American privateers, the Alliance and the Buccac...

LONDON, October 21.

On Saturday some letters were received from Quebec, brought by the Aurora, captain Hughes, arrived at Bristol, which mention that every thing remained quiet in that province, but the governor had ordered a body of troops to Montreal and St. John's, information having been received, that the Americans, in conjunction with the French, intended to attack those places as soon as the frost sets in.

The treaty of amity and commerce, between the United Provinces and the States of America, was signed on the 6th instant, at the Hague. The copy of it being produced, one side in Dutch, the other in English, the former was signed by their high mightinesses, one for each province, and by the grand pensioner; the other by his excellency Mr. Adams, minister plenipotentiary on the part of the Americans.

Extract of a letter from Paris, October 6.

On the first of this month Mr. Fitzherbert had a long conference with the counts de Vergennes and d'Aranda, Messieurs Gerard de Brantien, Benjamin Franklin, and de Berkenrode, and presented fresh letters of credence, by which his Britannic majesty authorizes him to sign a treaty, in which that prince and his parliament proposed to acknowledge the independence of the Americans, as a prelude to the great work of peace: at present the arrival of ministers from congress are waited for, and certain intelligence of the evacuation of the fourteen United Provinces by the English troops, before the conferences can go on.

It is said that Mr. Gerard de Rayneval, first secretary of the navy, was sent to London by the count de Vergennes, to get the act which establishes the independence of the Americans signed by king George the third and his ministers.

OB. 24. The dispatches brought by lieutenant-colonel Balfour, late commander of Charles-town, (who came home in the Southampton frigate, and arrived in New York on Saturday) contain the following particulars: the commander in chief, as to the effect which the late orders for evacuating our different posts and garrisons remaining in South Carolina has had upon the minds of the loyalists in that province. Among other information the colonel states, that after the orders were received by general Leslie from Sir Guy Carleton, for evacuating Charles-town, a deputation from the whole body of the associated loyalists waited upon general Leslie, to implore his assistance in the forbearance of his orders, which if put into immediate execution, would not only occasion the certain loss of their property, but also endanger the lives of themselves and families.

The humanity of general Leslie caused these representations to be laid before Sir Guy Carleton; in consequence of this application, which was backed by a memorial from the board of loyalists in New York, general Carleton suspended his orders, and sent home for further instructions; this caused a cabinet council to be held, and their determination was, that their former orders should be put in execution. Colonel Balfour mentions, that when he left Charles-town, general Leslie had begun destroying the fortifications, in order to leave the place in as defenceless a state as possible, and that transports were on their passage to convey the troops to New-York.

Nov. 12. A gentleman who came over in the packet boat from Holland says, that the Dutch had a suspicion that some of their people carried on a correspondence with the English, which was the reason of taking the packets, that they might discover the persons.

The royal society assembled last week, for the purpose of christening the new planet, when, after various propositions and learned speeches, it was at length unanimously resolved, that the new comer should, in honour of his majesty, the patron of arts and sciences, be known in future by the name of Georgium Sidus. This planet was at first, from the rapidity of its motions, mistaken for a comet, but it was afterwards discovered, through an improved telescope, that it was a planet; its dimensions are now pretty well ascertained, and it is classed in the fourth place as to size. The society voted their thanks to the ingenious mathematician at Bath, through whose improvement of the tele-

scope it was discovered that the Georgium Sidus was a planet.

Many people begin to be uneasy for the arrival of the Buffalo man of war, which lord Howe sent home with a duplicate of his dispatches, suspecting that she has been in with the French ships that sailed the latter end of last month from Brett.

Extract of a letter from Mr. John Foster, of the Betty, captain Storey, of Whitehaven, to his merchants, Messrs. Robinson and Sanderjon, dated at Liverpool, the 17th of October.

"We arrived here last night, and I think I may add, without exaggeration, after as disagreeable a passage as ever fleet met with. Long before this you will have heard of the dreadful hurricane which separated the fleet on the 16th of September; but you will still be short, even after this, for it is not in my power to describe it in its most melancholy scenes, nor do I think any person has an adequate idea of it who had not the misfortune of beholding it.

"It began in the S. E. quarter, and ended in the N. W. From about one o'clock till four was the severity of the gale, with every symptom of the hurricanes in the West-Indies, being attended with smart lightning and no thunder. At that time I felt for the poor beings who were in vessels similar to those I have been sometimes in at sea, and thought myself happy in being in a firm vessel. We had nothing to fear from the gale, except falling foul of some vessel, on which account we were very anxious for day-light. But when the wished for day-light came on, on every side appeared destruction; vessels without masts or yards, rum puncheons, various parts of wrecks and dead bodies of both sexes covered the sea; there was no side on which you could turn your eyes, but presented you with a wreck.

"His majesty's ship Centaur was the first vessel we knew; she was entirely disabled, and had lost her rudder. The Glorieux was the second, she had lost her bowsprit, fore-mast, and main-top-mast. Several merchant vessels were in equal bad condition; but what still increased the disagreeable spectacle was, that it was not in our power to give them any assistance.

"About eight o'clock in the morning we saw a man floating on some wreck. We were then under a reefed main-stay-sail, but the gale abating (very fortunately for the poor fellow) we round ourselves to windward of him, and the vessel answering the helm, and wearing equal to our wishes, we ran along-side of the wreck, and threw him a rope, which he got hold of, and very easily got on board. He is the second mate of the Minerva, captain Robert Holmes, of Glasgow; they had cut away her mizen-mast about ten minutes before she foundered; which mast we took him off, after being in that dreadful situation for six hours. The Minerva had 20 people on board, with passengers, all of whom perished except the above person, whose name is J. Scott.

"We kept near the Centaur till about twelve o'clock, at which time the Ville de Paris spoke to her; the latter had received no damage. The gale still increasing and looking very dismal, we were afraid of falling foul of ships masts, or other wreck, and seeing no hopes of any further assistance from the men of war, we bore away before dark under a reefed fore-sail, in order to steer clear of the wrecks before night, though we did not lose sight of them for 24 hours.

"We sustained no damage, except splitting our room main-sail, which we were laying to with close reef; the remainder of the night we had every sail furled, and then our our leading blocks were in the water. After we left the fleet, we fell in with the Abbey, captain Court, and the Agnes, captain Bailiff, both for Lancaster, who had got some of the Ramilles crew on board.

"The Caton and Hercules parted with the fleet before the gale, and the Janus never joined us. The Caton went to America."

Nov. 13. Orders are gone from the war office for the breaking up the camps at Plymouth; the Worcestershire militia march on the 19th into winter quarters, at Dorchester, Wareham, and Corfe castle.

We are very sorry to inform the public, that Mr. Henry Laurens, late president of congress, has had the misfortune to lose his son, colonel Laurens, who, to the unpeakable regret of all who knew him, and the great loss of the cause of America, was killed near Charles-town by a foraging party of the enemy. He had about 50 men at a post, the enemy were about 500; he made a brave resistance, repulsing them two or three times, until he fell with 20 or 30 of his men.

It is now said that earl Cornwallis will succeed general Burgoyne, as commander of the forces in Ireland.

The Union is the seventh ship of the line the Dutch have lost this war. Two were taken just at the commencement; a third in the West-Indies; one was lost in the Dogger-bank engagement, and another in the Texel, by the carelessness of the pilot, to which is now to be added the Union, lost in the North seas.

Count de Wederen, who is lost in the Union Dutch man of war, was the eldest son of count de Wederen, lately ambassador to our court from Holland: the Dutch nobility having few second titles, the eldest bears that of the father, being distinguished only by his surname.

A very scandalous attack has been made on admiral lord Howe in one of the morning papers, by which we see, that though the last administration are departed from office, they are not extinct. The same spirit of

detraction still exists, and now exerts itself on one of the greatest officers of the age. The skill of this attack, as well as the spirit, leads us to the author; and we see the active powers of that turbulent man, who some years ago arraigned his conduct for not having fought frigates against Brit rates.

Nov. 15. This day there is to be a board of treasury relative to the granting money for raising the levies in Germany.

Yesterday morning an officer arrived at the admiralty with dispatches from lord Howe's fleet, but are said to contain nothing new.

Yesterday a messenger arrived at the admiralty with dispatches from Plymouth, giving an account that a merchant ship had arrived there on Tuesday last from Madeira, that they saw lord Howe's fleet within three days sail of the Land's-end, and that his arrival might be shortly expected. The above account was immediately sent to his majesty at Windsor.

Lord Howe's fleet is daily expected, in consequence of which orders have been sent for the immediately victualling and watering 12 sail of the line on their arrival at Portsmouth. This Squadron, it is reported, are destined for the West-Indies.

A letter received by a merchant of Dublin, by the last packet, from a great banking house in Paris, says, "The accomplishment of your desire for peace, is not so distant as the news writers with you seem to imagine; for I can tell you with confidence, that if Gibraltar is relieved, the siege of that fortress will be raised, and a negotiation for establishing a peace will be seriously begun; and from the known disposition of all the belligerent powers, the event will be happy."

It is confidently spoken of at the Hague, that unless the belligerent powers enter into terms pacific, the empress of Russia has declared her intention of sending out a fleet in favour of Great-Britain early in the spring.

Dispatches are received from Holland, which intimate a correspondence having been discovered that threatened a total change of government in that country, and in which some of the first families are said to be concerned. Great alterations had ensued in consequence of the discovery, and both parties were so busily employed in watching each other, that the warlike operations of the republic were nearly at a stand; and the fleet of ships of war, intended for Brett, had been prevented from sailing with a favourable wind, by a delay publicly reported to be purposely designed.

Private letters from France mention the great armaments fitting out at Brett and Toulon, which are intended for Cadiz, to join a part of the combined fleets, and to proceed together for the West-Indies, under the command of d'Esting, or Guichen. These letters add, that the Spanish court, at the earnest entreaty of the French, have given up all idea of the siege of Gibraltar, and that 10,000 men from the army before that place will embark the beginning of next month for Martinico or Cuba, where a fleet of near 50 sail of the line are to co-operate with them in attacking some of the English settlements.

The Dutch have two sail of the line at Elsinore, two off the Naaze of Norway, and two or three more in the North seas; this is vastly superior to the British force in that quarter, and deserves a particular attention.

The Jesuit is said to have thought his situation so very unpromising as to have put him, at length, upon determining to dissolve parliament; but this a great personage is said to have put a negative upon.

The return of Mr. Fox into the cabinet, is now considered as an event more than likely to take place, and it reports are to be credited, the man of the people will shortly become the favourite of the sovereign.

If the Shelburne party reigns predominant after the meeting of parliament, it may reasonably be expected that the interior or efficient cabinet will be again revived under the baneful auspices of the old prerogative.

An order was given yesterday for two ships of the line to sail immediately to join the cruisers in the North-seas, it appearing that the Dutch are in greater force than was expected.

France still insists, as a preliminary, to have one of the Dutch ports in India as an equivalent for their saving the Cape of Good Hope.

Governor Elliot had at Gibraltar, when the fleet arrived, three months provisions untouched, but in the articles of power and ball they began to be very short; so that had the relief been postponed till after Christmas, they must inevitably have been on the point of surrender.

It is presumed, that the description of the burning glasses invented by Archimedes, suggested to M. de Buffon the idea of constructing his glass, consisting of 168 little plain mirrors, which produced so considerable a heat, as to set wood in flames at the distance of 209 feet; melted lead at that of 120; and silver at that of 50.

DUBLIN, November 2.

It has been the generally received opinion, that swallows, at the end of summer, emigrate to other countries; but it is now clearly proved to be a vulgar error. To ascertain this in the most accurate manner possible, the honourable D. Barrington, and several ingenious naturalists, went upon the Cornish coast the beginning of last summer, and shot a great number of swallows the first day of their appearance, which they carefully dissected, but found no faces in any of them: this was a self-evident proof, that instead of having travelled from a foreign clime, they had lived in a state of tor-