

Philadelphia, Oct. 10.

Capt. Macpherson, of the Ship Patsy Rutledge, arrived here on Sunday last from Ostend, which place he left on the 26th of August, informs, that two days before he failed, letters were received by the magistrates of the city, informing, that M. La Fayette and a number of his officers were taken by some peasants within the Austrian lines, and that he was conveyed and securely confined in the Castle of Antwerp, about 10 leagues from Ostend.

Reports in Ostend relative to this affair, were various before he failed.

Some said he was on a reconnoitring party with a few of his officers, and was surprised and taken by about double the number of peasants.

Another report is, that he was in disguise and endeavoring to make his way through the country towards some sea port town to take shipping for America. That he was discovered by some of the inhabitants, seized and delivered into the hands of government.

He requested, it is also said, to be removed from the scene of action on the frontiers, and chose Antwerp for the place of his confinement.

The account of his being taken and actually confined, was communicated to Capt. Macpherson by the merchant to whom he was consigned, who had seen the letters received by the magistrates.

There can therefore be but little doubt of the reality of the fact. What led to his being taken is not so evident.

That a general officer should venture into an enemy's country with so little caution as to be captured by peasants is not very probable; that M. La Fayette should desert the cause at the moment it most needed his support, is more incredible.

Information received in town from Bourdeaux, via New-York, may assist in unravelling the mystery. A vessel arrived in New-York from Bourdeaux, which place she left on the last day of August, informs, that a decree of accusation against M. La Fayette had received the sanction of a majority of the National Assembly. That orders were in consequence issued to apprehend him, and another commander was chosen in his stead.

M. La Fayette, it is probable, receiving information of this decree, before the arm of the Jacobin party could reach him, may have taken the resolution to escape their fury.

The breach of the constitution by the Jacobins would not have been sufficient to have led him to abandon his country; but the command being taken from him by the ruling party, put it out of his power to be any longer serviceable, especially as his arrest was decreed, which might be followed by a summary trial, condemnation and perhaps death.

An attempt to fly to this country as an asylum, would be extremely natural in such circumstances, and not unworthy of himself.

He will be treated with humanity by the despot in whose hands he has fallen;—not so if the emigrants had him in their power. His efforts in favour of the King, whose life he has saved more than once, will plead powerfully in his behalf; but it is much to be regretted, that if it was his plan to fly to this country, he should have been unsuccessful: Here he might have enjoyed the sweets of that liberty, in the cause of which he has been so active, and we should have had an opportunity of testifying our admiration for his character and gratitude for his services.

Capt. Macpherson also informs, that before he came away several of the officers of the northern army had arrived at Ostend, & among others, Count Dillon. They were probably impelled to emigrate in disgust at the proceedings of the Jacobins.

The Duke of Brunswick had taken possession of several French towns, without meeting with opposition.

The last accounts from Paris described the city as in a state of more tranquillity since the deposition of the King.

The decree of accusation against La Fayette and his capture, added to the deposition of the King, have made a change in the situation of affairs in France. The cause of the constitution expires; but that of liberty and republicanism are still to be supported.

It remains to be seen whether a majority of French citizens will support the proceedings of the Jacobins at Paris: It remains to be determined whether the royalists, aristocrats and constitutionalists, will not be more numerous than republicans. If the republicans can maintain a decided superiority within, the cause of liberty and equality may still prevail—this must still be the wish of every friend to the rights of man. It is better that France should feel for a few years the evils of anarchy, than again to experience the horrors of despotism. The French, the great body of the French nation, have seen the dawn of liberty, they can never bend to the yoke of tyranny.

The free people of colour and the free blacks of St. Domingo have not hitherto enjoyed the privileges to which they are entitled by the decree of the National Assembly of France; this has been the principal cause of the disturbances in that Colony.

A new election is however to take place of the Colonial and other popular Assemblies of the island, in which free people of colour and negroes are to have a voice.

This measure it is expected will restore unanimity among every class of citizens, which is absolutely necessary to effect a return of good order, and restore tranquillity.

Capt. Dring, in 35 days from Bourdeaux, arrived at New-York last Thursday, informs, that all was quiet in that city when he failed. He confirms the account of the murder of the three aged Priests at Cauderan (a village near Bourdeaux) as mentioned in our last, with all the aggravating circumstances.

The accounts from France by the Patsy Rutledge, are to the 26th August—eleven days later than those by the New-York, Capt. Smith. These accounts say that the King was still safe in the Temple at Paris, and had not been tried. The Duke of Brunswick was marching towards Paris, and had threatened to put every one there to the sword, in case of opposition.—The people at Ostend were of opinion, that the Duke is able to march through all France without meeting with much opposition.

The French officers, it is said, desert daily—but this is perhaps counterbalanced by a great number of desertions of Austrian soldiers to Luckner's army.—Ostend, it is to be remarked, is in the Austrian territories—these accounts are therefore to be credited with due limitation.

M. Desparbas is appointed Governor of St. Domingo, in the room of M. Blancheland, and sailed from the Isle of Aix, near Rochefort, the 22d July, with 30 transports, having on board between 6 and 7000 troops, destined for St. Domingo, and conveyed by some men of war, commanded by M. de Cambis.

Letters from Cape-Francois advise of the arrival of the above fleet.

The letters to the merchants of this city, even those to Mr. Ross, the owner of the ship Patsy Rutledge, Captain Macpherson, from Ostend, mention nothing of the capture or desertion of the Marquis La Fayette.

TRANSLATED

FROM THE COLOGNE GAZETTE OF AUGUST 14. PARIS, August 9.

THE factious redouble their efforts to oblige the King to quit the Capital, despairing perhaps of being able to execute their last attempts. For several days the rumor of his intended flight, repeated with design, has kept the people constantly in commotion. Every night they beat the general in the Faubourgs, to collect round the palace a continual concourse of people. They are preparing new and more considerable movements for the night of Wednesday or Thursday.—At an entertainment yesterday at Rincy, where were the Mayor of Paris and two secret envoys or emissaries from England, the dethronement of Louis XVI. was irrevocably sworn, and the Duke of York proclaimed King of the French.—If the Parisians and National Guards do not redouble their efforts, zeal and vigilance, the conduct of the flagitious will bring upon this immense city, and on its miserable inhabitants, all the floods of justice and vengeance.

The English Ambassador has informed the Diplomatic Committee, that he shall take his departure, without taking leave, the day after the deposing of the King shall be pronounced.

We learn by letters from Valenciennes, that the rumour being made in the garrison that the National Assembly had decreed the deposing of the King, the news excited a great fermentation among the troops of the line—and that a great number of the soldiers were ready to desert to the enemy with their arms and baggage. The department, the municipality, and the chief officers, have retained them only by assuring them that the news of the dethronement was without foundation. There is no doubt that the same disposition will be found in general in all the other armies.

Luxembourg, August 5. The advance guard of the Prussian army has entered this Province.—The troops are cantoned at Grevenmacker, Remich, Echternach, &c.

From a Richmond Paper of Oct. 1.

By a letter to his Excellency the Governor, we are authorized to announce to the public, that Col. Harden, with his companion, on a mission to the Indians, respecting a treaty of peace, on delivering their credentials, were immediately made prisoners, and sentenced to be burnt as spies. Col. Harden saw his companion expire, under all the tortures which savage ingenuity could invent; and was himself the next morning after his friend's execution to have experienced the same fate—but, was stolen from his confinement by eight young Wyandot warriors, who safely conducted him to Fort-Washington.

Danbury, Sept. 29.

We learn from Woodbury, (Connecticut) that on the 26th instant, a young man by the name of Perry, was killed by the falling of a tub of sand; he was digging a well, had sunk it about forty feet, the rope parted, and the tub fell upon his head, which deprived him of life, at the age of eighteen years.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

A government of laws, and not of the despotism, caprices, passions, or prejudices of men, has been the desire of every friend of liberty since the temple of freedom was erected in the United States.—Nothing else can give that stability to government, which is necessary to render it adequate to the maintenance of the rights of man. When, therefore, the grand jury of Augusta county, at a State court held in Virginia, presented, of their own mere motion, certain persons who had commenced an association against the laws of the union for raising a duty on distilled spirits;—when the traverse jury of Chester county, in Pennsylvania, convicted certain offenders against the same laws of an assault upon the officer, and fined them for the same; when the hand of just government (the power of a free people) was laid upon similar offenders in Cumberland, and in the western country of South-Carolina, every friend of government and freedom must have felt his peace, liberty, safety, and property secure against the inroads of despotism or anarchy; because they were comfortable proofs that we live under a government of laws. Devoutly is it to be wished, that a fact of a very different complexion had not occurred, in the due noticing of which, the sanctity of the laws, and the dignity of our free government at this moment depend. Persons, who for years have held a share of the legislative power of Pennsylvania, where in an excise law existed, which imposed a larger duty, and who never took a measure, as legislators, for the repeal of that law, nor for an opposition to its execution, until a similar, though smaller, duty was required by the national government, have begun to associate themselves against the laws of the union.

If there be aught of solemnity or efficacy in the ordaining of the federal constitution by the freemen of these United States, of obligation in the national laws, or of efficiency in the reversed hand to whom the people have committed, for a time, the guardianship of their peace and property, the sacred government of laws will be efficiently maintained and vindicated.

It would be the play of children to bring representatives of the people and of the States from every quarter, from Georgia to New-Hampshire, and from the western waters to the Atlantic ocean, to go through the solemn farce of enacting constitutional laws, if they are openly opposed in their execution by a few confined circles of misguided citizens. The whole of the petitioners for a repeal of the excise law, do not amount to the number of the inhabitants of one of our principal borough-towns, or one half of one of the smallest counties.

Where is liberty, if such minorities are to insult the civil authority?

People of America! remember the days of anarchy ye have passed, and oppose your every effort against their return, before it be too late! Gen. Advertiser.

COMMUNICATIONS.

In times of tumult and faction the worst men in society naturally take the lead of parties.—Not being used to govern their passions on other occasions, their vehemence surprises those who are moderate from feebleness of mind, or from temperate reflection. Such turbulent spirits are the fittest to be evoked when the world is to be set on fire. Impatient of all restraints, of those of virtue as well as of government, they are always complaining, always active to foment sedition. Yet when diffentions arise, they make a merit of their zeal, as if their regard to public principles had inspired it. Is the honest part of mankind duped by their pretensions, for in troublesome times, such men are certainly brought forward—or do they understand them, and make use of them, as they would of a poker to stir the fire when they would have it burn brighter? We meet with men of blasted characters, some of whom however are not so bad as to make any pretences of private virtue, because if they should the world would laugh in their faces. How often do we hear them holding forth in favor of public virtue! as if in politics they were as much too frail as they are too loose in morals. They abhor speculation—they would guard the laws against the most indirect influence of avarice—and so jealous are they of seeing republican principles impaired they can scarcely endure to hear others pray, thy kingdom come, as it smells of monarchy.—They will not allow their hearers to laugh either at their extravagance or their hypocrisy; they accuse the laughers of being speculators or monarchy men.—But those who have had the edifying opportunities of listening to tavern orators and the holders forth at public corners may be allowed to laugh in their sleeve when they remark the contrast between the practices and the professions of the declaimers. Surely virtue must have made great progress when its very enemies make speeches in its praise.

Happy is that people whose oppressions exist only in theory, who read in the Gazettes that government has seized all, and yet find at their tables nothing wanting. Is there a people who thrive faster, or who enjoy more, and yet is there a government on earth so bad as certain false democrats describe our own?—If Constantinople had newspapers, which it has not, even Turkish tyranny could not be painted in colors better adapted to create abhorrence. Do these men thus paint republican government to make us love it, or hate it?

The friends of liberty, as they modestly call themselves, but who would destroy all that the laws have done for liberty, tell us, that the money of the south and west is sent to pay interest to the middle and eastern creditors. The same writers complain of standing armies and an Indian war. Is not the money of the middle and eastern citizens sent for this purpose southward and westward?

How happens it that the virtuous writers who cant about the schemes and speculation, and corruption, of the federal government, are silent in regard to the projects of the states? Do the routines, and banks, and canals, and state debts, and accounts, and depreciation, and lands, &c. furnish no facts—or can their jealous virtue play the mouset only at one rat-hole?

Probably the United States are seeing their best days. A growing state is better than the most improved stationary one. Hope now glids our horizon with a lustre which would fade on possession. Our towns are growing, our farms improving, the settled frontier extending, arts and sciences are making progress.—What sphere that stands still? Nothing—not even the tongue of ingratitude, which dares to charge heaven with blame for all these blessings.

SAMUEL SMITH, Esq. is elected a Representative in Congress for the State of Maryland, for the District of the Town and County of Baltimore.

Yesterday at about one o'clock the election commenced in this city for members of Congress and the State Assembly—the poll was not closed when this paper went to press.

The Jacobin Club in Paris, in a petition to the National Assembly, which was to be presented in the name of the 48 sections, say:—

“Without enumerating the long list of La Fayette's well-known crimes, that they do declare him infamous and a traitor to his country; that they do allow any soldier or citizen to fall upon him (de lui courir fus) and bring him dead or alive to the bar of the National Assembly.”

Sir Richard Arkwright died at Cromford, Derbyshire, England, in August last; a statue of this gentleman is to be erected in the centre of a spacious square in Manchester; this will be a tribute to the worth of a man who from the humble situation of a barber, had not only accumulated vast wealth to himself, but been the means of enriching the surrounding country. It is said the profits of his works for several years amounted to £40,000 annually.

When the first cotton mill was erected by this gentleman at Derby, the manufacturers were impressed with such an idea of its being pregnant with ruin to them, that they rose in a body with a determination to destroy it; and would undoubtedly have done so, had not the military been called in for its protection.

SHIP NEWS.

Table with columns for ship names and destinations. Includes: ARRIVED at the PORT of PHILADELPHIA. Ship Adriaqua, Curwin, Liverpool; Patsy Rutledge, M'Pherson, Ostend; Hannah, Hawkes, Oporto; Friendship, Gould, London; Snow Sukey, Rogers, Hispaniola; Brig Swallow, Cheeseman, Boston; Fair Hebe, Eldridge, Teneriffe; Theodosia, Leake, Bourdeaux; Kitty, Shurtliff, Cape-Francois; Sally, Connell, Port-au-Prince; Peter Augustus, Robson, St. Eustatia; Sch'r Friendship, Art, Charleston; Charming Betsey, Odlin, Fayal; Sloop Two Brothers, Hill, Montserrat; Illinois, Hughes, St. Thomas; Hope, Hufley, Massachusetts; Polly, Cahoon, R. Island; Industry, Almy, ditto; Vency, Henly, St. Croix; Industry, Harding, Casco-Bay.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

Table with columns for stock prices. Includes: 6 per Cents, 21/9; 3 per Cents, 13/6; Deferred, 13/6; Full shares Bank U. S. 48 per cent prem.; 1/2 shares, 60.

To the Public.

THE subscriber returns his most respectful compliments to his friends and the public, for the many favors he has received, and begs leave to inform them that he has upon hand a few fine toned

FORTE PIANOS,

which he will warrant superior to any imported, and which he will dispose of on reasonable terms. The great number of FORTE PIANOS lately imported from London and Dublin, induces the subscriber to caution the public against the artful insinuations of persons commissioned to vend them—who, for a very trifling compensation, recommend instruments that are nothing but the refuse of the European Music-Shops, and imported at a mere trifle, and sold for the same price as a good instrument, to the great disappointment of the ignorant purchaser, who generally pays as much for repairs in a year or two, as the original cost of a good instrument.

N. B. MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS let out by the month or quarter, likewise Musical Instruments tuned and repaired in the best manner, and on the most reasonable terms, by

CHARLES TAWES,

[4t] No. 67, Walnut, near Third-Street.

JOHN GOULD,

HAIR-DRESSER,

INFORMS his friends and the public in general, that he continues to carry on his business as usual, at No. 1, South Third-Street, near Market-Street, and thanks his former customers for the favors he has received.

Said GOULD has for sale, an infallible cure for Weak or Sore Eyes, which on trial, has and will be found to answer the purpose.—He has it in vials from one quarter of a dollar to a dollar.—Any person trying the above, if not found to answer the character given, the money will be returned. [4t]