

Foreign Intelligence.

VIA ANTIGUA.

LONDON, December 15.

That there is a strongly prevailing disposition in France to make peace with England (and for which perhaps the new Government of that country may be inclined to conform) is evident, from the following passage, which we extract *verbatim* from a very respectable French paper:

"It has often been repeated, that the English Government should be exterminated. This might be well; but it would certainly be much better for us to make Peace with this Government. England has been the foul of the Coalition. Could we detach it, the other powers must yield to us, for two special reasons—1. They would be no longer supported by English gold; and 2dly, One port, at present deserted, would immediately be frequented; commerce would then be renewed (prosperity would follow), and our power would increase; whilst that of our enemies would dwindle to nothing. We speak however, of an honorable and advantageous peace, as well for the Batavians as ourselves. Peace on good conditions is preferable to any thing. Vengeance is a mean passion; it is unworthy of a great nation; and, in the present instance, entirely against its interests."

[Journal du Commerce.]

A paper holds similar language, recommending the Government to make an honorable Peace with the only power capable of consolidating the interests of France. If such be the disposition of the Government, as well as the people, (and Buonaparte himself professes, that superior to all party attachments, he has no object in view but their interests) much may yet be hoped from the late change that has taken place, provided by this change the government is likely to acquire such a solidity and responsibility as may guarantee any engagements entered into with foreign nations.

December 16.

The Bank has purchased the whole amount of the dollars taken in the Spanish prizes, at 5s. 4d. per ounce.

December 20.

It appears that the Emperor Paul confidently relies on making himself master of the island of Malta. The St. Petersburg Court Gazette announces the appointment of Lieutenant-General Behinder to be Governor of that Island.

A beautiful Circassian arrived on Sunday at the Turkish Ambassador's hotel. She was brought from Smyrna in the Princess, Captain William Lee, as a present from the Grand Seigneur to his Excellency the Ambassador. She is peculiarly elegant and beautiful, and was escorted hither by six black eunuchs. The Ambassador shewed great attention to Captain Lee, on account of the care he had taken of his young mistress.

Though the French have sworn *Hatred to Royalty*, it seems the oath does not extend to *Queens*, since we see that, notwithstanding their poverty, and their want of means to exterminate Kings, they have expended two hundred thousand lives on a splendid carriage for the Queen of Spain. It must, indeed, be acknowledged, that His Most Catholic Majesty has paid very dearly for the foreign ship of which this useful testimony is the first fruits!

December 23.

The Dutch Admiral Story is gone to reside at Croydon on his parole. His excursion through the neighbouring country is unlimited, but he is not to come within ten miles of the capital.

The Duke of York, as we are assured, has convinced a great personage that no blame attaches to his royal highness, in attempting to carry the plan of the expedition into effect; and that the whole fault rests with those at home, who had the charge of providing the means for its execution. Whether the expedition *in toto*, or only the plan is blamed, we have not heard; but the fault is thrown upon Mr. Dundas, either as originating the undertaking, or as the person in this country entrusted with carrying the plan into effect. Even Sir Ralph Abercrombie, we are told, has not escaped censure, so completely has the Duke of York justified himself in a certain quarter, where, it is reported, Mr. Dundas has not been graciously received. This may explain why Sir Ralph did not come to London to pay his respects to his majesty.

Mr. Dundas, it is said, will retire upon a pension and a peerage, and that he is gone to Scotland, to secure the election in Edinburgh in favour of a friendly successor.

December 27.

The Prince of Wales has presented Mr. Kemble with a gold box, as a token of approbation for his performance of *Rolla*, in the Play of *Pizarro*.

Napper Tandy, it is reported, has received notice to prepare for his trial sometime in the middle of January.

There are at this time no less than 796 pendants flying on board British ships of war; and by a new code of signals, numerically arranged, vessels can now distinguish each other, on whatever station they may fall: the shore signal posts have also the same code, so that they can telegraphically report to the Admiralty the hour on which every King's ship passes their respective stations.

January 3.

The garrison of the fort of Valetta, in the island of Malta, according to the report brought by a vessel arrived at Guernsey from the Mediterranean, has signed a capitulation, by which it agrees to surrender, if not furnished with a supply of military stores from France in a given time.

We lament to hear that the Poet Laureat makes the ninth party to the 'idle dispute about the close of the century: he gives to the New Year's Ode the title of *Carmen Seculare*, and he publishes a preface in defence of his opinion. The topic was a pregnant source of betting in a sportive argument, and many a jolly dinner has been enjoyed from the controversy, but it is another matter to pledge the sense of the nation to the joke.

Upon Christmas day the new Constitution began to be put in execution; and the Tuilleries, the Palace of so many lawful kings, from whence the last of them was led by parricides to his dungeon, was assigned as the residence of the Corsican Sovereign, for whom the *Great Nation* has murdered the best of its kings, and waded for the last six years through seas of tears and blood!

It is remarkable that the day which the regicides have selected for the inauguration of their system of unqualified despotism is that sacred day, from which all European Nations date their eternal hope. Upon that day, they assert that their revolution has found an end.

Buonaparte has appointed Fourcroy, the celebrated chemist, a member of state, in the department of finance. Probably it is thought, that in the present scarcity of money Fourcroy may be able to raise the supplies by applying his chemical knowledge towards the multiplication of specie; and that by discovering the philosopher's stone, he may produce that gold and silver which the economists cannot obtain.

The French consuls are dressing for their parts, and it is expected that Buonaparte will prove "every inch a king," as long as the Parisians can be pleased with the novelty of the thing!

The unbounded power of the present French Government does not altogether repress the ludicrous fancy of the Parisians. A satirical letter is said now to be circulating in that metropolis addressed to Citizen, General, Monsieur, Consul, King, Buonaparte, Member of the National Institute.

It is generally understood that Sir Ralph Abercrombie has refused the offer of a peerage.

The Irish Parliament, whose meeting is appointed for the 15th inst. will renew the question of the Union with all the vehemence of party. The *pros* and *cons* are equally confident of their successful efforts.

The preparations making for a new Expedition of great magnitude, have been before mentioned, respecting which we have to add, on the authority of Letters of yesterday, that orders have been received at Chatham to fit the *Indefatigable*, *Trompe*, and *Vestal* frigates, for the reception of troops on board. A number of other ships are preparing at different ports for a similar service.

Among the numerous perfidious and corrupt acts of Buonaparte, during his command in Italy, the following has lately been published:—

"In June 1796, Buonaparte arrived with his army under the walls of Modena. The Duke unable to oppose him, entered into an amicable negotiation, the result of which was a solemn agreement, that, on the Duke of Modena's paying 600,000 crowns, and allowing a free passage for the French army by the short road through the territory of Modena, by Pistoia, to Leghorn, the city of Modena, and the subjects of the Duke, should be spared from all further requisition.

"The money was immediately sent by the Duke to Buonaparte's head quarters, in silver, which he received, but demurred, on account of its not being sent in gold, alleging that the agio, (which is the difference in Italy between the value of gold and silver), was then near ten per cent. The Duke replied that the currency of Modena was silver, and that in his whole territory the amount could not be raised in gold. Buonaparte firm to his purpose, insisted on having the contribution paid in gold. The Duke then agreed to receive back the silver, and forward it at his own expence to Leghorn, to get it exchanged.—But no; Buonaparte would keep the silver as a security for the safe arrival of the gold; and a very short period was given the Duke to procure it. The enemy was at his gates. The Duke collected the 600,000 crowns and sent them under an escort to Leghorn, and got them exchanged for gold, which was immediately forwarded to Buonaparte's head quarters, with a request that the original 600,000 crowns might be returned. Buonaparte, however, kept both; and not satisfied with this act of perfidy, on the same night he entered the city of Modena, demanded an immediate contribution of shoes, and every other supply for the use of the army, on pain of military execution. The venerable Duke of Modena was allowed to make his escape by the canal in the Venetian territories, and his departure was made a pretence for plundering his palace, and ruin and desolation followed."

In the city of Quebec the price of bread is regulated by the average price of flour for the preceding month; and any baker refusing to supply his customers with the usual quantity of bread, who have been regularly supplied from him the preceding month, forfeits his recognizance, and becomes liable to a prosecution.

IRISH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Wednesday, Jan. 15.

The Lord Lieutenant this day went down to the House of Peers, and opened the Parliament with the following Speech:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I have received his Majesty's commands to assemble you in Parliament.

"Upon a review of the important and glorious events that have distinguished the period which has elapsed since I last addressed you, the most gratifying and encouraging reflections present themselves to our consideration.

"By the brilliant course of victories achieved by the combined Imperial armies, the various kingdoms and states of Italy have been delivered from the ravages and the tyranny of the French.

"The throne of Naples and our friendly connection with that kingdom have been restored.

"The French expedition to Egypt has been checked in its career by the exertions of the Turkish arms, assisted by a small detachment of his Majesty's forces, and the gallantry of their heroic commander.

"The hostile plans of the common enemy in India have terminated in the total destruction of the power which had been misled by their artifices, and through the timely, vigorous, and decisive counsels of the Marquis of Wellesley, and the consummate skill and valour of his Majesty's Generals, Officers and Troops, the British possessions in that quarter of the globe have been beneficially extended, and effectually secured.

"By the descent of his Majesty's forces, and of his Russian allies on the Coast of Holland, the Dutch fleet has been happily refuted from the power of the enemy; and although the season, peculiarly unfavourable to military operations, produced the necessity of relinquishing an enterprise so fortunately begun, and prevented the accomplishment of his Majesty's views, yet the result of that expedition has been peculiarly beneficial to this kingdom, in removing all fear of attack on our coasts from a quarter whence it has been so often planned, and in enabling his Majesty's fleets to direct their vigilance exclusively to the single port from which the enemy can attack this country with any hope even of a temporary success.

"My utmost care has been exerted to carry into execution the extraordinary powers which you have committed to my discretion, with vigour; and at the same time with moderation. All tendency to insurrection has been effectually repressed; but it gives me true concern to acquaint you, that the painful necessity of acting with severity has been too frequently imposed upon me; and although public tranquillity has been in a great measure restored, yet I have to lament that a disposition to outrage and conspiracy still continues in several districts, that much industry is used to keep alive the spirit of disaffection, and to encourage among the lower classes the hopes of French alliance.

"I trust that the recent revolution in France cannot fail to open the eyes of such of his Majesty's subjects as have been deluded by the artifice which have been unremittently employed to withdraw them from their allegiance; and that it will restore and increase the love of constitutional order, and of regulated freedom, by demonstrating that the principles of false liberty tend ultimately to despotism, and that the eternal struggles of democratic faction naturally close in military usurpation.

"So long as the French government, under whatever form it exerts its influence, shall persevere in schemes of despotism and projects, of ambition, subversive at once of the liberties of Europe and of the security of his Majesty's Dominions, there can be no wise alternative but to prosecute the war with increasing energy. It is by great exertions alone that either their views of aggrandisement can be frustrated, or a solid peace procured; his Majesty has therefore availed himself with peculiar satisfaction of the cordial and great assistance which has been afforded him by his faithful Ally the Emperor of Russia, and has thought right to make every exertion for augmenting the disposable military force of his own dominions. His Majesty therefore has been highly gratified in accepting the services so generously offered by his English Militia; and I am to express to you the entire confidence which his Majesty feels, that the zeal and loyalty of his Militia of this kingdom, in forwarding at this important crisis the active operations of the Empire, will not be less prompt and conspicuous.

"The apprehension of general scarcity which some time since took place, called for my early attention to this most important subject; and I was induced, with the advice of the Council, to offer premiums for the early importation of grain. This measure will, I flatter myself, meet your approbation; and I have full confidence in your wisdom, if it shall be necessary to resort to any further extraordinary means for procuring a supply."

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"The evident necessity of securing this kingdom from every danger, whether foreign or domestic, and of rendering the success of invasion, if attempted, impracticable, will demonstrate to you the wisdom of continuing that enlarged system of defence you have so wisely adopted.

"I have therefore ordered the public accounts and estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you; and have the fullest confidence, that in the supply which such a situation shall appear to you to require, you will equally consult the safety of the kingdom and the honor of his Majesty's government.

"I am induced to hope, that the great increase of the revenue, which has taken place in the present year, may enable you to raise the sums which may be wanted for the current services, without any distressing addition to the burthens of the people."

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I recommend to your usual attention the agriculture, the manufactures, and particularly the linen manufacture of Ireland;

and I doubt not, that the Protestant charitable schools, and the public institutions, whether of charity or of education, which have been protected by your liberality, will still receive a judicious encouragement.

"It will be your wisdom to consider how far it will be necessary to continue any of those extraordinary powers, with which you have strengthened the authority of his Majesty's government, for the more effectual suppression and punishment of rebellious conspiracy and outrage.

"His Majesty places the most entire reliance upon your firmness and wisdom, and he has no doubt but you will anxiously pursue such measures as shall be best calculated for bringing the present war to an honorable termination, and for restoring the country to a permanent quietude.

"It will be my constant object to attend to your suggestions and advice, that I may by this means most beneficially accomplish the commands I have received from his Majesty and most effectually forward the interests and happiness of this kingdom."

LONDON, Jan. 21.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have ordered the beautiful frigate *la Bourdelaise* to be commissioned at Plymouth, and to carry twenty-eight 32 pounders. This ship is considered by the ship builders to be the most beautiful model ever brought into an English port. She was taken by the Revolutionaire, Capt. Twicken, about two months ago, then on her second cruise since launching, at which time she had taken and destroyed 29 British vessels, the insurance on which, at Lloyd's, cost the underwriters two hundred and thirty thousand pounds. She is completely formed for fast sailing, that, though often chased by English men of war, none could come up with her; and her captain and owners often boasted at Bourdeaux that they felt the whole of the British navy at defiance, provided they did not fall in with the Revolutionaire in blowing weather: Fortunately this event took place, and after a chase of nine hours, going 13 or 14 knots the whole time, *la Bourdelaise* struck to captain Twicken. Lord Spencer has given the command of this choice and desirable frigate, to captain Thomas Manly, who formerly commanded the *Charon*. *La Bourdelaise* is 680 tons, 159 feet long, and 32 feet 6 inches beam.

Captain Eliab Hervey, is appointed to the *Triumph*, of 74 guns.

Capt. Edward O'Brien, to the *Essex* Sea Fencibles.

Capt. Patterson, to the *Muntaguc* of 74.

Capt. H. Hoehan, to the *Immortalite*, of 36, at Plymouth.

January 27.

The most positive advices have been received at Vienna and Ratisbon, that 30,000 Russians, as an Auxiliary Corps, two thirds infantry and one third cavalry, are now marching in three columns towards Bohemia. The Russian army now quartered in Bohemia will be increased to 70,000 men. Thus a fresh army of 100,000 Russians will appear in the field early in the spring, or perhaps sooner, if circumstances should require it.

"The Vienna Court Gazette, of the 28th December contains a letter from Innsbruck, dated in the evening of the 21st, which states that all the military of that place had been ordered, by a Courier, to proceed by forced marches to Italy, where the French had collected very strongly at a certain place."

General Petrasch also reported, that the French were in motion, and that it appeared they would march in three columns towards Bregenz, Chur, and Feldkirch, against which he was making all necessary preparation.

"The Vienna Court Gazette of the 4th inst. contains an official relation of the occurrences in Italy, down to the 23d December by which it appears that the French, instead of having gained some advantage, were forced to fly with the utmost precipitation to the walls of Genoa, many of their troops, with a chief of Brigade, being taken prisoners.

"The imperial army in Italy is to be completed to 150,000 men, and that of the Archduke it is supposed will not be less than 100,000 men, which together with 700,000 Russians to act on the Rhine, and at least 100,000 armed peasants, will give full employment to Buonaparte abroad;—whilst the Ghouans, Vendéens and a French continental expedition of Anglo Russians, may equally claim his attention at home.

"Mr. Wickham, the English envoy has collected a flotilla of forty two ships on the Lake of Constance, which is to favour the operations in Switzerland, and will soon be considerably augmented.

"The English fleet which blocks up the harbor of Genoa, is reported to have taken a French flotilla laden with provisions and ammunition for that city.

"Private letters from Italy state, that one half of the Austrian army has entered winter quarters, whilst the other is to pursue its operations for some time, and then be relieved. By this plan the Austrians will always appear in the field with renovated strength."

Our Plymouth letter states, on the authority of a passenger arrived from Morlaix, that the enemy's fleet at Brest, consisted of forty-eight sail of the line, fourteen of which were ready for sea, completely manned, and that they were expected to sail in a few days on a secret expedition, the object of which was supposed to be Portugal.

ARMY OF THE EAST.

INTERCEPTED CORRESPONDENCE.

From this last intercepted correspondence from Egypt now published, under the authority of government, we shall select some passages from the letters of Kleber, Pouffiegue, General Controller of the Expenses,

General Dugna, and Buonaparte himself to develop the character of the Arch-Confidant, and show the miserable and delirious condition in which he left the army of Egypt when he meanly stole away from it, stealing also at the same time every single sous belonging to the military chest.

Buonaparte to General Kleber.

"The commissioner of the arts shall return to France on board a flag of truce, which you will demand for this purpose, conformably to the late cartel, some time in the month of November, immediately after they have completed the object of their mission. They are at present engaged in putting a finishing hand to it, by an examination of Upper Egypt. Nevertheless, if you think that any of them will be of service to you you may put them in requisition without scruple!!!"

"It, by a series of the most extraordinary events, none of these attempts should succeed, and you should neither receive reinforcements, nor intelligence from France by any means; and if this year, in spite of all your precautions, the plague should break out in Egypt and carry off more than fifteen hundred of the troops—a considerable loss in addition to that which the events of the war will daily occasion—I think that you ought not to venture upon another campaign and that you are sufficiently justified in concluding a peace with the Ottoman Porte—even though the evacuation of Egypt should be the leading article. It will merely be necessary for you to postpone the execution of it (if such a thing be possible) till the period of a general peace.

"Endeavor to get together five or six hundred Mamelours, in such a manner, that when the French fleet arrives, you may be able to lay your hands upon them at the same instant of time, either at Cairo or in the other provinces, and send them off immediately for France. If you cannot procure Mamelours, such Arab hostages, *Cheiks el Belad* as may then be in custody, no matter on what account, will answer the end as well. These people, landed in France, and detained there for a year or two, will contemplate the grandeur of the Nation; they will acquire, in some degree, our manners and our language, and when they return to Egypt, will prove to us as many partisans.

"The army I entrust to your care is entirely composed of my own children. I have never ceased, even in the midst of their most trying difficulties and dangers, to receive proofs of their attachment; endeavor to preserve them still in those sentiments for me. This is due to the particular esteem and friendship I entertain for you, and to the unfeigned affection I feel for them!"

[To be continued.]

VIENNA, December 13.

The Austrian Gazette announces that the Russian army assembled anew in Lithuania, will traverse Galicia in eight columns, where they will repair directly to Austria, Moravia, and Bohemia; where they will take their winter quarters, and join the army of General Suwarrow. According to the same accounts, the first column of these reinforcements has already passed the *Vistula*, and directs its course to *Lindsburg*. Preparations are making in the neighborhood of Vienna to receive 15,000 Russians, who are to arrive towards the end of January. The Prague Gazette states, that General Suwarrow, the Archduke Charles and General Melas are immediately to repair to Vienna, in order to concert a general plan for the approaching campaign. In the mean time the Aulic Council of war has ordered to press, with fresh activity, the levies in all the hereditary states.

PARIS, January 30.

Official dispatches, from General Kleber, dated Cairo, 25 Broumaire (November 16), state, that on 10th Broumaire (November 1), at break of day about four thousand Turks landed at Damietta, and immediately endeavoured to intrench themselves in a place between the right bank of the Nile, the sea, and the late *Menzalch*. General Verdier, who was encamped between *Lesbeh*, being informed of this descent, marched to attack them, put to the sword 3000 and took about 800 prisoners. General Verdier took from the enemy 32 standards, one 24 pounder, and four field pieces with their ammunition. This landing was effected under Sir Sidney Smith, who commanded the fleet. On the 18th the fleet was forced to sea by tempestuous weather, and had not again appeared when Kleber's dispatches were sent off. Some vessels, however, were still cruising off Alexandria, among which was the *Thebes*.

Buonaparte, first Consul of the Republic, to the Burgomasters and Senate of the free and Imperial City of Hamburg.

Paris, 2 Nivose, 8 year, Dec. 30, 1799.

SIRS,

We have received your letter; it does not justify your conduct.

Courage and virtue preserve States; cowardice and vice destroy them.

You have violated the laws of hospitality.—Such an event could not have happened among the most barbarous hordes of the desert. Your fellow citizens must forever reproach you.

The two unfortunate men whom you have delivered up will die illustrious; but their blood shall work more evil on the heads of their persecutors than a whole army could have done.

(Signed)

BUONAPARTE.

HUGHES BERNARD MARET,

The Secretary State.