

Gen. Miranda, in his justificatory memorial, in exculpation of himself, throws all the blame on Dumourier, whom he accuses of treason.

The most positive contradiction is given to some very absurd reports which had been indubitably enough circulated respecting two British Princes now on the Continent. The public are intreated to give little credence to any such reports.

This is the day appointed for all the inhabitants of the Polish provinces taken possession of by the king of Prussia to take the oath of fidelity to that monarch. Count Herzberg is the person whom his majesty has sent to represent him on that occasion.

The account of the sudden death of Dr. Lettison is untrue. The doctor has contradicted it in a letter subscribed by himself.

Letter from Gen. Dampierre to the National Convention of France, written before his nomination to be Commander in Chief of the northern army.

"Finding the republic in danger, I have taken such extraordinary measures as I hope will meet your approbation. I will rally to your standard as much as possible the troops, and all good citizens to counteract the designs of a traitor, who has now thrown off the mask. I dispatch to you citizen Tardie, an officer of enginry; he has been witness to all the intrigues of Dumourier and his little circle; and of all that horrid scene of villainy of which those he entertained about him were capable. He will let you into a full knowledge of all this dark history. It is my wish to save my country—I wait with impatience for your assistance and protection. I offer myself because I see no other general that will come forward. When a superior is appointed, who has his country's salvation at heart, and the independence of the republic, I will obey his orders to the last extremity."

Never was an age so fertile as the present in chemical discoveries. Accident some time ago proved, that animal substances remaining a certain time in the earth, instead of being devoured according to the vulgar notion by worms, were converted into a substance of exactly the same qualities with that called Spermaceti. Experiments have been since made in imitation of this process of nature; and various parts of the human and other bodies, deposited a few months in the earth, or in water, have been converted into inflammable substances, which burn with a bright flame till they are totally consumed. The only parts not thus convertible are the earthy basis of the bones. And as every thing inflammable resolves itself in its analysis into different kinds of air, the body of man therefore will finally resolve itself into ethereal substances. All dead bodies are capable of being made into candles; and those who have been striving in vain to give light during their lives, will certainly have that capacity after they are dead.

According to Lord Rawdon's affecting statement in his new bill, there are no less than 20,000 debtors, 1,200 wives, and 4,000 children distressed by the present Laws of Loan and Credit.

The Navy List at present contains the names of no less than 1400 lieutenants.

The following singular remedy in cases of Canine Madness, we learn by a letter from Jamaica, was lately practised at Kingdon, with the desired effect: A large Dog, who had every symptom of madness, was immersed in salt water till nearly dead. When taken out and rubbed before a fire, it gradually recovered, without the least remains of its former malady.

Notwithstanding the communication from France is much interrupted, we have received the following letter from Boulogne, which contains news of great importance, should the event justify the contents of it.

Boulogne, April 25.

"Twelve days ago two Englishmen embarked at this place for England. This circumstance took

place at noon, and with uncommon attention towards them on the part of the Municipality of the town. An agent from the Executive Council, who accompanied them from Paris, did not fail to excite our attention. The inhabitants in general expected their business was relating to the opening of the passage between England and France, which had been so lately shut.

These two persons arrived here about six days before, accompanied by the agent above mentioned, whose passport said he was charged with a mission. He brought also letters from the Executive Council to the Mayor and Municipal officers, to send these foreigners to their own country, with all proper attention. This was on the point of being fulfilled, when a Commissioner of the Convention from Arras arrived in the town, to whom the Mayor communicated the affair. The Commissioner, not knowing their errand, and as the defection of Dumourier had just taken place, he suspected the persons, and accordingly ordered them to be arrested, and dispatched a courier to Paris, to identify the passport, and a boat was kept ready, in case the letters of the President of the Council were confirmed. In this situation they remained six days, when orders were returned to send them to England, and these were confirmed by the new committee of Public Safety, consisting of nine of the leading members of both parties in the Convention. The Mayor and Municipality accompanied them to the Quay, where they embarked for England. The object of their mission no one could learn.

"This circumstance has of course caused much speculation, and the general opinion is, they were charged with making overtures for a peace. The Government of France having clearly seen the deceptions that had been passed upon it on a former occasion, and seeing that the only prospect of quieting affairs at home was by peace, has unanimously determined upon the measure. In consequence of which, letters to this purpose, we understand, have been written; but owing to the Alien Bill, and not knowing what reception a Frenchman would meet with in England, these letters were thus forwarded to an Agent of the Executive Council resident in London, to deliver to Lord Grenville."

GEOGRAPHY OF THE WAR, AT THE PRESENT MOMENT.

It may be satisfactory, perhaps, to some who are desirous to form a just idea of the transactions in the present war between France and the Allies, if we point out the different situations of the armies opposed to each other. First, the Prince of Cobourg, at the head of the Austrian, Hanoverian, and British troops in Flanders, is besieging the towns of Conde, Valenciennes, &c. on the northern frontiers of France. If we then carry our eye along the map to the eastward for 250 miles, we shall find the cities of Mentz and Cassel, (which stand opposite to each other on the banks of the Rhine) closely besieged by the Prussian General Kalkreuth. Ascending the Rhine about fifty miles, we come to Spire, where General Wurmsler, at the head of 40,000 Germans, is preparing to lay siege to Landau, a French town in Alsace, which Marshal Vauban employed all his skill in rendering one of the strongest fortresses in Europe. Proceeding about twenty miles to the southward, we find Custine with the remains of his army, which the King of Prussia has driven from the Electorate of Mentz, encamped under the walls of Weissenbourg, in Alsace.

The celebrated inventor of the terrible fire, known under the title of Cailles, which did such surprising execution at the late siege of Belgrade, under Marechal Landohn, has been sent for express from Vienna, to assist at the siege of Mentz.

The allies, it has been stated, are by no means agreed as to their object, or the mode to attain it. The generous valour of the Prince de Cobourg, it was said, respected an ene-

my, he had found brave beyond expectation.

What was even yet more momentous than this, it was alleged, upon we know not what authority, that the British Cabinet was not indisposed to negotiate for a peace. To this idea, the vigorous preparations at home, and the subsidy to foreign troops give some contradiction; not indeed insurmountable to those who recollect the Minister's accustomed practice of armed negotiations.

Mr. Secretary Dundas's son, who is now of age, is the political pupil of Lord Auckland. He does not come into Parliament till the noble Lord has pronounced his education finished.

The Earl of Fife's succession to the fortune of his kinswoman, Mrs. Duff, is disputed by her nephew, the son of the late Admiral Duff. The bone of contention is worth 50,000l. of course it will afford pretty pickings for the lawyers.

Miss Scott, the wealthiest Heiress in the kingdom, is, by an absurd Clause in her father's Will, prohibited from marrying a Peer, or the presumptive Heir of a Peer, under the Penalty of forfeiting the greatest part of her fortune. This perhaps may be one reason why Mr. Dundas has never counted on the honors of the Upper House.

Young Oswald, the son and heir to the great fortune of the American Peacemaker, is lately married to the beautiful and accomplished Miss Lucy Johnson, of Edinburgh.

Extract of a letter from Dundee, dated April 27.

"I am just now come from witnessing a most disastrous and melancholy scene. Above 150 persons having this afternoon crowded on board a light sloop in this harbor, at full tide, in order to view the launching of a vessel from the dock-yard, unfortunately, from the weight of the persons on the shrouds, yards, and deck, the sloop overset, and every person was thrown into the water. By the singular exertions and activity of the seamen (and humanity of others who stripped and swam in to save those unhappy persons) boats were instantly got close to the wreck, and almost all of them were picked up in less than a quarter of an hour. I am sorry to learn, however, that about thirteen have perished by this sad catastrophe.—The wild and helpless screams and yells of parents and others, in quest of, and trembling for the fate of children and relations, may be much easier imagined than described. A mother saved with the loss of the infant in her arms, and children preserved with the loss of their keepers, formed altogether the most helpless and wretched picture I ever beheld. It has indeed at present spread a very dismal gloom over the face of this place.

United States.

WINCHESTER (Vir.) June 24.

On Thursday the 23d ult. some persons unknown, but believed to be a variety of circumstances to consist of from 3 to 6, fired upon three unarmed Indians, two Chickasaws and a Cherokee, in the woods, about 600 paces from Gov. Blount's house, and wounded one of the Chickasaws (John Morris) with which wound he died on the 24th, and was buried on the 25th.

The following is Governor Blount's order for his burial:

"John Morris, the Chickasaw who was so inhumanly murdered on the 23d instant, by the base hand of some unknown assassin, to be buried this afternoon, at the usual burial ground of the white people, with the military honors due to a warrior of his friendly nation. The procession to commence in the street near the magazine, at four o'clock.

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

"Sergeant, corporal and twelve privates to precede the corps.

"The Governor and brother of the deceased as chief mourners.

"The Chickasaws, two and two.

"The civil and military officers, two & two.

"Private citizens, two and two."

The inhabitants of Knoxville generally, and many from the circumjacent country attended, and expressed great sorrow at the inhuman murder of this good and friendly young Chickasaw.

John Morris, and his brother James Anderson, who was with Pimingo in Gen. St. Clair's army, arrived with Coodey, the Hanging Maw, and several other Cherokees, at the Governor's, on Sunday the 19th, and at the time they were fired upon, were in the woods, attending to their horses at grass, between the Governor's house and plantation, in a bend of the river Holston, where no armed persons could have any business, except to injure such Indians as they might there find.

The perpetrators of this unmanly & atrocious deed were three Indian horses, a proof that they not only fought innocent blood, but property not their own.

NEW YORK, June 27.

Extract of a letter from London, dated May 2, to a merchant in this city.

"I find that the situation of things at home as well as abroad has brought Mr. Pitt to say very nearly as much as that he will treat with the convention, or the men of the day if no better can be done. He is so much frightened at the home situation, that he will make terms with France, and next packet will confirm to you what I now write."

FOR THE GAZETTE.

THE second and principal objection to the proclamation, namely, that it is inconsistent with the treaties between the United States and France, will now be examined.

It has been already shown, that it is not inconsistent with the performance of any of the stipulations in those treaties, which would not make us an associate or party in the war, and particularly that it is incompatible with the privileges secured to France by the seventeenth and twenty-second articles of the Treaty of Commerce; which, except the clause of guarantee, constitute the most material discriminations to be found in our treaties in favor of that country.

Official documents have likewise appeared, in the public papers, which are understood to be authentic, that serve as a comment upon the sense of the proclamation in this particular, proving that it was not deemed by the executive incompatible with the performance of the stipulations in those articles, and that in practice they are intended to be observed.

It has however been admitted, that the declaration of neutrality excludes the idea of an execution of the clause of guarantee.

It becomes necessary therefore to examine, whether the United States would have a valid justification for not complying with it, in case of their being called upon for that purpose by France.

Without knowing how far the reasons, which have occurred to me, may have influenced the President, there appear to me to exist very good and substantial grounds for a refusal.

The alliance between the United States and France is a defensive alliance. In the caption of it it is denominated a "treaty of alliance eventual and defensive." In the body of it (article second) it is called a defensive alliance. The words of that article are as follow "the essential and direct end of the present defensive alliance is to maintain effectually the liberty, sovereignty and independence absolute and unlimited of the United States, as well in matters of government, as of commerce."

The predominant quality or character then of our alliance with France is, that it is defensive in its principle, of course the meaning obligation and force of every stipulation in the treaty must be tested and determined by that principle. It is not necessary (and would be absurd) that it should be repeated in every article. It is sufficient that it be once declared, to be understood in every part of the treaty, unless coupled with express negative words excluding the implication.

The great question consequently is—what are the nature and effect of a defensive alliance? When does the *casus federais*, or condition of the contract take place, in such an alliance?

Reason, the concurring opinions of writers, and the practice of nations will answer—"when either of the allies is attacked, when war is made upon him, not when he makes war upon another;" In other words, the stipulated assistance is to be given to the ally when engaged in a defensive, not when engaged in an offensive war. This obligation to assist only in a defensive war, constitutes the essential difference between a defensive alliance and one which is both offensive and defensive. In the latter case there is an obligation to co-operate as well when the war on the part of our ally is offensive, as when it is defensive. To affirm therefore, that the United States are bound to assist France in the war in which she is at present engaged, would be to convert our treaty with her into an alliance offensive and defensive, contrary to the express and reiterated declarations of the instrument itself.

This assertion implies, that the war in question is an offensive war on the part of France.

And so it undoubtedly is with regard to all the powers with whom she was at war at the time of issuing the proclamation.

No position is better established, than that the power which first declares, or actually begins a WAR, whatever may have been the causes leading to it, is that which makes an offensive war. Nor is there any doubt that France first declared and began the war, against Austria, Prussia, Savoy, Holland, England and Spain.

Upon this point there is apt to be some incorrectness of ideas. Those who have not examined subjects of such a nature, are led to imagine that the party which commits the first injury, or gives the first provocation, is on the offensive side in the war, though begun by the other party.

But the cause or the occasion of the war, and the war itself, are things entirely distinct. Tis the commencement of the war itself, that decides the question of being on the offensive or defensive. All writers on the laws of nations agree in this principle, but it is more accurately laid down in the following extract from Burlamaqui.

"Neither are we to believe (says he) that he who first injures another, begins by that an offensive war, and that the other who de-