

LONDON, February 24.

A commissioner is arrived in this country, from France, to treat for an exchange of prisoners. The circumstance has given rise to a report that the National Convention had sent to propose to our government the opening of a negotiation for peace. We can positively state that this rumour proceeds from the cause we have stated, and the commissioner has no other powers than to treat on the subject here mentioned.

The accounts brought from Ireland by the mail of yesterday, are truly important. The dispatches from England, in the hand writing of Mr. Pitt, signifying his Majesty's command to Earl Fitzwilliam to stop the progress of the Catholic bill, and of the bill for the repeal of the Convention act, and to re-instate the persons who had been turned out of office, arrived there on Wednesday last, the 25th ult. And the dispatches, we understand, contained a commission, in case Earl Fitzwilliam should feel indisposed to comply with this peremptory mandate, for the appointment of Lord's Justices to hold the reins of government in his room until a successor should arrive. The Lord's Justices to be the Lord Chancellor, the Chief Justice of the King's Bench, the Speaker of the House of Commons, and the Primate.

This was the report in the highest political circles in Dublin, and the friends of Lord Fitzgibbon said that they had confidential letters from Mr. Pitt, assuring them that the motions for the introduction of those bills into Parliament, as well as the dismissal of Mr. Beresford, Mr. Wolf, and Mr. Toler, had been done in direct contradiction of the agreement made with Earl Fitzwilliam; and that, foreclosing the resignation of the Lord Lieutenant, his Majesty had been graciously pleased to put the office into commission. Earl Camden was mentioned in the same circles as the person likely to succeed.

Nothing can equal the shock of the surprize which this dispatch gave the Irish nation. In the House of Commons, on Thursday last, the 26th ult. a motion was made for an address to Earl Fitzwilliam, declaring that he possessed the confidence of that House and praying him to continue in the situation of Lord Lieutenant. This motion produced an interesting conversation, in which Mr. Ponsonby said, that the time was not come for giving the necessary explanations of the reports then circulating; but, he trusted, the time was not distant, when they would be fully explained, and, he hoped, satisfactorily, to the honor of all parties. In the mean time he requested, that the gentlemen would withdraw their motion, which accordingly was done.

The Lord Lieutenant did not lose a moment in sending off a messenger with his resignation of the office, and fixing the day for his departure. Unless the whole of the arrangements which he avers were made before his setting out from England, and upon which he has literally acted, shall be confirmed, he may be expected in England in a week or ten days from this date.

This is not to be considered as an ordinary change, comprehending no other consequence than that of the momentary triumph of one party over another. It involves, in the opinion of wise and enlightened statesmen, the fate of Ireland.

March 4.

The duke of Portland has been so much indisposed with the gout for some days past, as to be unable to attend the cabinet meetings. In consequence of this, the council met last at his grace's house.

In consequence of the indisposition of Earl Howe, his flag was struck on board the Queen Charlotte; and the command of the Grand Fleet devolves on the Right Honorable Lord Bridport.

EDINBURGH, February 21.

Some fresh accounts are said to have been received from Spain, which represent the Duke of Alcauda as having entirely lost his influence in the cabinet of Madrid, in consequence of the late failures in the army. Peace, it is added, has in consequence again become the topic of universal conversation.

The taxes, from the first glance, appear to be as little oppressive as any that could well be devised. That upon hair powder, in some peculiar instances of large families, where rank and fortune are at variance, will prove rather embarrassing;—but it will be amazingly productive. Edinburgh will contribute its proportion; for powder is more universally worn here than in any place in Britain, London not excepted.

NEW-YORK, April 28.

Since the first of March six French privateers had been brought into the Mole, of which the Sanspareille was one.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The certificate of Captain Kemp, commander of the ship Ohio, which carried Mr. Jay to England.

WHEREAS a report has been circulated, that Mr. Jay was to remain in England until the treaty between America and Great Britain was ratified, and such ratification returned to him, and it has been asserted that such report was occasioned by information from me. Now therefore I do hereby certify and declare, that such information was never given by me, and I believe the said report altogether unfounded: I do hereby further declare, that from various conversations with Mr. Jay, previous to my sailing from London I have no doubt, and verily believe that he sailed for America early in the present month, and that his arrival here may with certainty, be expected early in the next month. I further declare, that Mr. Jay particularly inquired of me respecting the vessels intending to sail in the beginning of April.

JOHN KEMP, master of the ship Ohio.

New-York, April, 1725.

The ship Manchester Captain Cox. arrived in the River last Thursday, in 38 days from Liverpool—Contrary winds kept her below till yesterday—She has bro't Liverpool papers to the 12th and London papers to the 11th March—from which we are enabled to lay before our readers the following articles of intelligence—further extracts from these papers will be given to-morrow.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

3. Ventose, Saturday, Feb. 21
Boissy d'Anglas, after a long report in the name of the Committee of Public and General Safety and of legislation, frequently interrupted by warm applause, proposed a decree for assuring the freedom of religious opinions and worship. After some debate it was adopted in the following terms:

The National Convention, after having heard the report of its Committees of Public and General Safety and of legislation, decree—

I. Conformable to the seventh article of the declaration of the Rights of Man, and the hundred and twenty second article of the Constitution, the exercise of any Worship cannot be disturbed.

II. The Republic pays for none.

III. The Republic furnishes no place for the exercise of worship, nor for the lodging of its ministers.

IV. The ceremonies of every worship are interdicted out of the limits of the place chosen for their exercise.

V. The law does not recognize any minister of worship: none can appear in public with the dress or ornaments attached to religious ceremonies.

VI. Every Assembly of citizens for the exercise of any worship whatsoever is subjected to the superintendance of the Constituted Authorities. This superintendance is confined to measures of police and public safety.

VII. No sign particular to any worship can be exhibited in any public place, nor externally in any manner whatever. The place appropriated to any Worship cannot be distinguished by any inscription; no Proclamation or public convocation can be made to invite the citizens to it.

VIII. The Communes of Sections or communes cannot, in their collective capacity, purchase or rent any place for the exercise of worship.

IX. No such place can be formed by endowment or established by any tax to defray the expense.

X. Whoever shall disturb by violence the ceremonies of any worship, or insult the objects of it shall be punished according to the law of correctional police.

XI. Nothing herein contained to be construed in prejudice of the law of the 18th September last on Ecclesiastical Pension, the dispositions of which law shall be executed to their form and tenor.

XII. Every decree the dispositions of which are contrary to the present law, is repealed.

Merlin, of Thionville—“Do you imagine that you have done every thing, because you have laid a strong hand upon the supporters of Terror? Do not deceive yourselves. A Revolution is not accomplished, tyranny is not beaten down while the tyrants still exist. You have charged your Commission of Twenty-one to examine their conduct; what need of these tedious terms? Had Brutus recourse to them when he destroyed Cæsar? What need have the French people, whom you represent, of a Tribunal? They have entire confidence in you, and without comparing the four grand criminals to Carrier, who was only their supporter, I appeal to his case as an example. The people on that occasion left in the hand of their legislators the formidable sword with which they ought to arm against the assassins of their country under pain of being held for accomplices. You desire an honourable, above all a durable peace. God! Let Senatus fall with Tiberius; let Antony fall with Cæsar; the assassins of our country must descend into the grave at the moment we are triumphant. The soil of Liberty must be purged of the monsters who pollute it, in order that the Tree of public Felicity may grow up majestically, and collect under its shade a people who cannot have peace until they see an end to the struggle

between guilt and virtue. Yes, the French people will call upon you for vengeance; innocent blood demands it of you; their cries you will hear till the names of innocent victims are appeased. You have crushed one part of the old Government; you must crush the other also, or you will never enjoy liberty. Your safety depends upon it. You see they have an army against which every precaution must be taken.—Punish the Chiefs of these sanguinary hordes; the day on which you shall consummate this grand act of justice, you will have peace throughout all the Republic. I move that the commission of twenty-one be directed to make its report within two days.”

Legendre, of Paris. “There is no doubt room for being surprized at the slowness of proceeding in this important affair; but in a just Government, we must not become oppressors because we have been oppressed. Under a just government the greatest latitude ought to be given to the defence of men accused; under a tyrannical Government on the contrary, every Member saw the order to arrest him impressed on his front, by the hand of one of the Governors. Citizens, France has also a right to be surprized at the punishment of subaltern tyrants; for when the Government is tyrannical the subaltern authorities are constrained to tyranny in spite of themselves. The proof of this incontestable truth is recorded in the annals of revolutions. The question was even debated, whether being able to read and write were necessary qualifications for being a member of a Revolutionary committee. Patriotism, it was said, was the only qualification necessary; thus there were great criminals in those committees; but if there was in any of them a single innocent man we ought to plead his cause. We know that all the sections of the people will forget their private resentments; that guilt will be accused with courage, and error forgiven, when you have bro't the chiefs of the tyranny to trial. Your commission has been long charged with a cause; attempts have been made to assassinate you; but you are at length called upon by the voice of a People, just, but not desirous of assuming the place of our former executors, I move that the commission give some explanation; that we may at length obtain tranquility by the punishment of the guilty and the acquittal of the innocent. We must not forget the difference between him that gives the impulse and him that follows it. Let us generalize measures of benev. lenecy, but let us not generalize measures of rigour. I know men of worth whom circumstances have placed in difficult situations. These men have come to offer their resignation, because in the Revolutionary committees of which they were Members, they were persecuted as moderates. I desire that the innocent may not be confounded with the guilty, and that the convention cover with its aegis the honest man, whose only fault is that of having been placed in a situation which compelled him to act with those who committed crimes. I move that the commission of twenty-one be called upon to say when they will be able to make their report.”

Ordered.

Johannot, in the name of the commission of twenty-one—I am directed to declare to you, that the commission is employed without ceasing in the inquiry entrusted to it. We feel the importance of that inquiry, but it is impossible for us to state precisely when we shall be able to make our report. The mass of papers which you have referred to us is immense; there were others in various places which it was our duty to find out, make extracts of them, and deliver those extracts to the parties accused. We yesterday morning received fresh papers, which must be examined. All I can say is, that we this day bear our colleagues for the last time; that immediately after we shall enter into deliberation, and lay before you the result of our enquiry with the least possible delay.”

Ordered.

From the LONDON GAZETTE of Mar 7.

Admiralty Office, March 7, 1795.

Copy of a Letter from Sir John B. Warren, Captain of his Majesty's Ship La Pomone, to Mr. Stephens, dated Guilford Bay, March 2, 1795.

SIR,

I beg you will inform their Lordships, that in pursuance of their orders I put to sea on the 12th of February last, with the ships named in the margin*. The weather becoming thick, with fresh breezes and a heavy sea, on the 14th the Anson carried away her main-topmast, which obliged me to heave too; and owing to her damages, I was under the necessity of bearing down the two following days, as she had drifted considerably to leeward, and being unable to repair her defects at sea, I ordered captain Durham to proceed with all possible dispatch to Plymouth.

On the 18th having fell in with three sail of the enemy's transports, part of a convoy bound from Brest, I hauled the wind and endeavored to make the land; and on the 21st the light house on the Isle of Oleron bearing S. E. by E. I discovered a frigate and twenty fail of vessels under convoy, close in with the shore, many of them under American, Swedish, and Danish colours. I pursued them half way up the Pertuis d'Antioche, in sight of the Isle of Aix; but the tide of flood setting strong up, and the wind right in, I was obliged to tack, and captured and destroyed the vessels in the enclosed list. I understand the frigate was La Nereide, of thirty-six guns, twelve pounders, with transports and other vessels for wine and stores, to Rochefort and Bourdeaux, on account of the Convention for their fleet. On the 26th, the Isle of Gros bearing East six leagues, I gave chase to six fail of vessels, in the N. W. At nine, A. M. captured the Conventional Schooner La Curieuse, with the five others. They were bound to Nantes from Brest, with cloathing for the army.

I am much indebted to the attention and activity of Captains Keat and Martin, with their officers and men upon this occasion.

I arrived this day with the Galatea and Artois, and shall use every dispatch in completing the ships for service.

I have the honor to remain &c.

J. B. WARREN.

* La Pomone, Galatea, Anfort, Artois, and Duke of York lugger.

A List of Transports and vessels captured and sent to England by the Squadron under the command of Sir J. B. Warren, Bart. K. B. between the 13th and 26th of February 1795.

Sloop Le Petit Jean, brig St. Pierre, do.

Deux Freres, ship La Petite Magdeleine, 1 a

Pacquet boat de Cayenne, sloop La Curieuse, (Conventional) eight brass guns, lugger La Liberté, do. la Gloire, brig transport la Biche, (Conventional). Total nine.

J. B. WARREN.

A List of Transports and Vessels bound to Rochfort Bourdeaux and Nantes, for stores and victuals for the fleet, on account of the Convention, and destroyed by the Squadron under the command of Sir John B. Warren, Bart. K. B. between the 13th and 26th of February 1795.

BURN'T.

Schooner brig La Desiree, brig Three Friends brig (Conventional transport) Trois Freres, brig (ditto) Le Guerrier, brig La Liberté, brig L'Esperance, lugger La Patriote.

SCUTTLED.

Brig La Gralcy, brig Jean et Marie, brig la Pierre, brig L'Anne. Total Eleven.

Copy of a Letter from Captain George Burlton, of his Majesty's Ship Lively, to Mr. Stephens, dated Plymouth, March 4th, 1795.

Having received orders from my Lord's Commissioners of the Admiralty to put myself under the command of Captain Stirling, of his Majesty's Ship Jason, I have the honor to acquaint you, for their Lordships information, that I sailed in company with her, on the 27th of February, from Spithead, and that on the first of March a hard gale of wind and thick weather from S. E. separated us. I used my utmost endeavors to gain the cruising ground, in order to join her again. At nine o'clock in the evening of the 2d instant, I then bearing S. E. thirteen leagues, I saw a sail coming down upon me, which I soon perceived to be an armed vessel and gave her chase. At twelve o'clock we took possession of her; she proves to be the L'Espion, of 18 six pounders and 140 men, five days from Brest, on a cruise, in perfect good order, lately one of his Majesty's loops of war. I think she is a very desirable vessel for the same purpose, as she sails well. As I have many prisoners on board, I hope their Lordships will approve of my coming into the nearest port to land them. With their permission I shall leave her for the inspection of the officers of the dock-yard at this port. I have the honor &c.

GEORGE BURLTON.

LONDON, March 5.

Yesterday morning about 9 o'clock, Richard Brothers, the pretended prophet, was visited by Messrs. Rofs and Higgins, two of his Majesty's messengers in ordinary, at his lodgings, No. 57, Paddington street, Mary-le-bone, and taken into custody under a warrant granted by his grace the Duke of Portland, for treasonable practices. He was much inclined to resist the order, and the crowd of his disciples at the time was numerous. He remains at present in the custody of the above messengers.

From the Calcutta India Gazette.

Monday, August 11.

The following are the particulars with which we have been favoured, relative to the action between the detachment under Col. Pendergalt, and Rajah Vizeram Rauze:

The Rajah was in considerable force, not less than 18 or 20,000 men, at Boney, about seven miles from Bimlapatam, when the colonel moved from thence on the 7th instant. He summoned the Rajah to accede to terms; but after some time spent in fruitless negotiations, on the morning of the 10th, he advanced from his camp above three miles distant, hoping to effect by his approach what negotiation failed in. The Rajah's people were drawn up on high ground along a tank. They stood firm, and no fire opened till within pistol shot. The first was from the enemy, who sustained the action gallantly for three quarters of an hour. They were at last thrown into confusion, by the rounds of grape that were poured in and the file firing that was well kept up; and were pursued through the village, with much slaughter and plunder.

Vizeram had himself received several wounds, and was found dead in his Palankeen; round which his near relations and principal people had fought and died with faithful bravery. Their loss must have been considerable. On our part, the 20th battalion seems to have suffered most in some of the native officers, and about twenty or thirty Sepoys: in all, perhaps the loss may amount to fifty or sixty. Only two European officers wounded, lieutenants Hazlewood and Marshall, slightly.

It were to be wished the contest could have ended, as was the endeavour, by negotiation: and not as it has now effectually done by the death of the Rajah.

GLOUCESTER, (Eng.) March 2.

A gentleman in the neighborhood of Tewkesbury, in this county, has lately fold for 100 guineas, an OX of most uncommon size, and which was bred

by the late Mr. Berthoud, of Devoreux Woolton, Herefordshire. His weight on the machine is one ton fourteen hundred and seven pounds; height 19 hands; girth 11 feet 6 inches; length from the brow to the drop of the tail, nine feet six inches; and is supposed to be the largest ever bred.

LIVERPOOL, March 12.

ARRIVED,

John Boggels, Virginia.

Adraflus, Jamieson, Massachusetts.

Venus, Young, ditto.

Betley, Goddard, ditto.

HAGUE, Feb. 10.

In yesterday's sitting of the Provisional Representatives of the People of Holland, a deputation from the Students of Leyden congratulated the Assembly on the true restoration of the Rights of Man, wishing that the edifice of Liberty might contribute to the happiness of the People, and endure for ages. They prayed, in the name of their constituents, that the National school of the country might subsist in future, and provisionally, in its present state. The President replied, that their request should be taken into consideration, and they were admitted to the honours of the sitting.

February 18.

The Assembly of the Representatives of the people is completing. Deputies from the towns in which the revolution is effected are daily arriving. On the 16th the Stadtholderate was solemnly abolished for ever; a declaration not new in our annals; but the principles of which are now such that it is as independent of historical erudition as the present circumstances are different from those of any former crisis.

A deputation will this day communicate this national decree to the Representatives of the French people, and at the same time propose an alliance between the two republics. The just eagerness to consummate this act of alliance appears to be approved of by the most enlightened patriots. Views of prudence point it out as the best means of defeating the great cunning of the cabinet of Berlin; for it is still thought that the king of Prussia is diligently intriguing, even in France, to induce the government of the French republic to negotiations, in which Prussia and the United Provinces being in a common situation with respect to peace, might make only a common treaty. Besides as it is impossible that the French government should suffer the French nation to adopt such a measure without the error being productive of gradual calamities, the Dutch ought to be vigilant on this point, and to stem the conclusion of an alliance with the French, on the sole condition of an entire security.

It is expressly forbidden to pass the frontiers without the consent in writing of the regency of the place in which the person applying for it resides. This law ordains the sequestration of the property of persons who attempt to emigrate, with other penalties, and even death in certain cases. It forbids the departure of the regents and ministers of the old system, and other persons who have public accounts to give in. Van der Hopp, the Fiscal of the Admiralty, and Kielbergen, the Stadtholder's Admiral, have been put under arrest at Amsterdam.

The States of Holland have declared the free importation of corn and flour.

The Ministers of Russia, Prussia, America, Mecklenbourg, the Hanseatic Towns, &c. have had a conference with the President of the States. On this head the patriots who planned the Revolution which the French armies enable us to carry into effect, asked several questions:—“Is it their desire to observe us more closely? Is it their confidence that nothing will be durable? Which of these reasons obtains for the regenerated United Provinces a condemnation which the French republic was far from obtaining even from some of those very powers?”

Order of the Representatives of the People with the French armies in Holland.

Hague, February 18.

The relations of Commerce between Holland, France, and the conquered countries occupied by the armies of the Republic, are entirely re-established, conformably to the laws respecting importations and exportations, which are, however, to be made by the interior only, and not by sea, until otherwise ordered. All orders to the contrary are revoked.

This order shall be printed, published, and posted up.

(Signed) D. V. RAMEL,

A. LOQUIER,

C. COCKERAN.