

# WILMINGTON GAZETTE.

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## Late European News.

Received at Charleston, by the ship *Columbia*, capt. *Watt*, from *Glasgow*.

LONDON, December 6.

Saturday a report again prevailed in the city, that the Consular Government had consented that our Cabinet should retain Malta, and farther, in proof of the sincerity of its wishes for the maintenance of Peace, that they should enjoy the provisional possession of the Egyptian Ports.

New difficulties are stated to have arisen in the arrangements of a Commercial Treaty with France. The Chief Consul is believed to be averse to the principle of intercourse, and the project drawn up under his direction is said to be encumbered by so many exceptions and restrictions, as to be rendered nearly nugatory.

From a recent decision, which took place at Brest, it appears, that the French are determined, if we persist in our Navigation Act, to have theirs. By the Navigation Act of England, foreign vessels are not allowed to enter the Port of London with any other produce than that of the countries to which they respectively belong. France, it appears, has resolved to adopt the same principle—An English vessel, bringing a cargo of iron from Petersburg to Brest, has been declared *contraband*.

December 7.

The estimates for the army for 1803, present the largest and most expensive peace establishment ever kept up by this country. The land forces of all descriptions, exclusive of 22,814 in India, amount to 110,966 men, at the expence of 5,270,056l. The same may be remarked of the navy establishment, which is 50,000 seamen.

Every power in Europe maintains an attitude ready to strike, yet many flatter themselves there is no danger of a new rupture.

December 8.

A most violent earthquake was experienced at Bucharest on the 26th of October. The details of this dreadful phenomenon, communicated in a letter from that city, are as follows:

"Yesterday, October 26, between twelve and one o'clock, this city was thrown into the greatest consternation by an earthquake. The shocks which succeeded each other, for ten minutes and an half, were so violent, that all the chimneys were thrown down, several houses and some churches also tumbled to pieces; that of St. Nicholas, and the famous tower of Goleza, are nothing but a heap of ruins. The earth burst open at several places, and a greenish water, which diffused a sulphurous odour throughout the whole city spouted up through the fissures. At five o'clock the phenomenon was renewed, but the shocks were less violent, and occasioned no damage. Notwithstanding the great number of edifices thrown down during the first commotion, no persons have perished except a Jew, with her child, and two others. Prince Ypsilanti, the new Hospodar of Wallachia, had just arrived; he had gone to offer up his prayers, and the most violent shocks were felt just at the moment when he was about to kiss the gospel."

Another letter, dated November 20, says, that on the 26th of October, Constantinople was entirely destroyed; the Seraglio and a great part of the city were swallowed up.

December 13.

Letters from the Hague, of the 27th ult. state, that Mr. Liston the British ambassador, has entered into a negotiation with the Batavian government, in regard to the treaty of commerce between the two countries.

According to private accounts from Paris the English government has applied to the French for explanations relative to the destination of Parma, on which subject Lord Whitworth has had a conference.

December 14.

We received this morning the Paris papers to the 11th.

The *Moniteur* communicates an account of an earthquake having been felt at Algiers on the 7th and 8th of last month. The shock was so violent for 40 seconds, that the inhabitants expected every moment to be buried under the ruins of their houses. Several buildings were damaged; at 6 leagues from Algiers its effects were dreadful; a village was destroyed with all its inhabitants. All the Europeans at Algiers have quitted the city and escaped in the fields.

Two English sail of the line are

said to have felt the shock very strongly 30 miles from the land.

Of the rumours which represented Constantinople to have been destroyed the *Moniteur* does not give either official confirmation or contradiction. But letters from Vienna, of the 24th ult. mention that accounts have been received from Peterwaradin, by the director of the posts, who has sent them to all the postmasters throughout the empire, which state that the earthquake was felt, on the 26th of last October from Peterwaradin, throughout Servia, Bosnia, and to the banks of the Black Sea, and that it was violent at Constantinople.

The greater part of the houses in the neighbourhood of the Seraglio, and many buildings and Mosques in the suburb Gallata, were destroyed. The Seraglio suffered considerably. The grand seignor and crowds of the inhabitants fled to the mosque of St. Sophia, which is supposed to be incapable of being destroyed. The shock lasted 30 minutes.

Switzerland, to use the language of the French journals, is quite tranquilized; that is French troops pervade the country; and the people having been disarmed are forced to submit.

The Italian coasts are much infested by the Barbary corsairs.

It is said that the Court of Vienna has remonstrated, in virtue of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, against the union of Parma to France.

A letter from Constantinople confirms the account that had before reached us by way of Gibraltar, of disputes prevailing between British and Turkish troops in Egypt. The letter alluded to states, that on the 24th of October, Lord Elgin, the English ambassador, had a conference with the Turkish ministry, in regard to the present state of affairs in Egypt. According to the intelligence received from that country, a great animosity prevails between the Turkish and British troops. The latter are still in possession of Alexandria, and are busily employed in strengthening their position. It is much apprehended that if means be not soon found to settle their differences, they will be attended with serious consequences.

December 17.

The Dutches of Parma and Placenza are, it is stated in the *Journal Defenseur*, to be united to the kingdom of Etruria, provided the King of Spain will consent to cede the Floridas to France; but if that cession does not take place, those Dutches are to be given to the Italian Republic.

The earthquake on the 26th of October was felt at the same hour at Petersburg, Moscow and Kiev, slightly at the former city, more strongly at Moscow, and with still greater violence at Kiev, where six shocks were felt in the space of three minutes, and the houses much shaken.

It has been stated from the Hague, that since Lord Whitworth's arrival at Paris, the embarkation of French troops for Louisiana, which was to take place in the Dutch ports, has been countermanded. We think this extremely probable, because we can readily conceive it was a measure which our ambassador was likely to be instructed to remonstrate against and oppose; and we sincerely hope it is true; but if the accounts received by the French papers last night be correct, the views of the consular government are not bounded by one acquisition in the same quarter. It is now said that Spain has been required to cede the Floridas to France, on condition of the Dutches of Parma and Placenza are to be united to the kingdom of Etruria, and if not to the Italian Republic. It is almost needless to observe, that if the bait offered to the Court of Spain is not great enough to induce a compliance, the influence of France in that cabinet can enforce it as a demand. It has likewise been stated, from a respectable quarter, that Cochin has been given up to France by the Dutch. It is true his majesty's ministers have not officially learnt this circumstance, but that does not lessen its probability.

At peace with the French Republic, are we thus to be doomed to witness a perpetual succession of encroachments against which, we presume remonstrances will on our part be made? Are we to come, period after period, to the verge of hostility, and then to be soothed with explanation, which may be no sooner made than the occasion of them may be repeated? We think too highly both of the discernment and the spirit of our ministers, to suppose for a moment that they

would thus compromise the honour of their country, by descending to such mean submission. Buonaparte may cut and carve on the continent as he pleases—there seems to be no power existing in Europe to prevent him from giving full scope to the dictates of his towering ambition there; but when he thinks of extending his empire on the other side of the Atlantic, or to the shore of India, he must be sensible we should suppose, of the necessity of obtaining the concurrence and assent of the British government; and it must strike him that these transfers of property, and bargains of exchange, are not likely to meet with our approbation, more especially as the equivalent, if such it may be called to be given on his part, has been illegally obtained.

Among the subjects of discussion at Paris of which we conceive their must be many, Malta will doubtless form a very leading and important one. We perceive with satisfaction, however, from the proceedings in the House of Commons last night, that the laws relative to trade and its geographical situation are to be renewed, a pledge that will not be immediately, or without due consideration, ceded. The material changes indeed, that have taken place in the political situation of Europe, and that are projected and carrying into effect in other quarters of the globe, would in our opinion fully warrant us in permanently retaining it. The French government may say, that that would be a violation of the treaty of Amiens, but in how many instances has it already been grossly violated by France?

We understand that it is proposed that Parliament should adjourn on the 23d instant, not to meet again till the 3d day of February.

Yesterday was settling day in omnium at the stock exchange; and this day the payment of 15 per cent. takes place, which completes all the instalments on the loan of twenty-five millions.

The difference were very heavy, the fluctuations in the course of this month alone having been seven per cent. The settlements however went off well. We have heard of only one defaulter. The funds still keep mending.

December 18.

The King slightly sprained his leg on Tuesday mounting his horse, which prevented his majesty from riding on Wednesday; but we are happy to state, that he had perfectly recovered from the effects of the accident on Thursday.

Report says that Bourienne, private secretary to Buonaparte, is at present confined in the temple.

A report was yesterday circulated on the stock exchange, for the purpose no doubt, of lowering the funds, that Mr. Pitt had died suddenly at Bath on Thursday evening. This rumour was not believed, and the people will learn with heartfelt satisfaction, was wholly without foundation.

The celebrated George Barrington, who, after having always offended the law in this country, at last acted as high constable at Botany Bay, is, we hear dead, leaving a property worth 12,000l. The circumstances of his life are well remembered by many. He escaped transportation, for stealing the Duke of Beaufort's Diamond George, at St. James's, on a birth day, because the Duke felt the pull. It was stolen, but the nice distinction of the law said not privately. Afterwards he was tried and transported for stealing a gold watch at Enfield races, but that was privately, the owner did not feel the pull. The George was found on Barrington, and the watch was not; yet the nice distinction of the law got the better of positive evidence. He is now gone after having in his latter years acted a good part. His conduct was exemplary, he applied his former knowledge of the world to the improvement of a country which may one day equal in importance and splendor any that has yet existed.

One of the most important circumstances disclosed in the debates has been the complete reconciliation between the Grenville party and the Pitt, and the ardent wishes of that party to oust the present administration. The call for Mr. Pitt's return to power was heard from his supporters in both houses.

We must therefore no longer expect to see any cordiality between the friends of the present and the friends of the late minister. The gauntlet is thrown down—the challenge is given. In the mean time Mr. Pitt and Mr.

Dundas remain at Bath, not unconcerned spectators, we may suppose of the scene that is acting on the great theatre of politics.

The Dutch Indianman *Vryheid*, which passed Dover roads in distress, on Monday evening having lost her mainmast, made signal for assistance, but the pilot boat which put off, never reached her, as it came on dreadfully thick and tempestuous, so that she soon was lost sight of. In this helpless situation, the crew was unable to keep her off the land, and about one in the morning she was driven on shore near Hythe, by the fury of the wind. It is supposed that out of the number on board, most of which were troops, and amounted with the crew, to above 400, no more than eighteen have been saved. Every officer has perished; the floating bodies of the sufferers are as distressing to the eye as their shrieks, during a dark and stormy morning, were to the ear of humanity; and no attempt could be made to save them, that was not certain to involve in a similar fate all who should undertake it. A gentleman who went from this place to Hythe, to see the wreck, says not the smallest part of the vessel is to be seen. The body of a woman was thrown upon the beach amongst the rest, with an infant closely pressed to her bosom; the scene was a most affecting one to all who witnessed it. Had the pilot-boat fortunately reached the ship on Monday, the tremendous wreck of life and property which ensued might have been prevented. Fourteen of the poor sufferers were taken out of an excavation of the rock all together. The captain's wife was on board, and perished with her husband.

GREENOCK, Dec. 14.

It is reported that the first consul is determined to send to St. Domingo, a force superior in numbers to the total amount of the troops already dispatched to that colony. To the attainment of this object, the present conscription throughout the republic is solely directed; and the reinforcements are to consist with the exception of two or three thousand veterans, and all the non-commissioned officers, of very young men. It now embraces, as we have already stated, all from 20 to 21 years of age; and the general opinion at Paris is, that it will be extended to all from the age of 18 to 20. The force to be thus raised and sent out, from time to time as the recruits may be disciplined is estimated at no less than fifty thousand men. This expedition to that island is generally considered in Paris as "a forlorn hope." And letters received from Paris by the last French Mail state, that disturbances have broken out in several parts of France, in consequence of the great draught making from the conscripts.

We are strongly inclined to hope that the report of the destruction of Constantinople on the 26th of October, by an Earthquake, is unfounded, or at least greatly exaggerated, as letters are said to have been received from that city, dated the 28th ult. which merely state that they had experienced a slight shock of an earthquake.

December 17.

On Monday morning arrived a Dutch Mail. It brings no account from Turkey of a later date than those which appear in the French papers. It appears by accounts brought by the last German mail, that an earthquake has actually taken place, but the damage said to be sustained, we have no doubt, has been much exaggerated.

BELFAST, December 6.

STORM AND INUNDATION.

The tempestuous weather experienced from Wednesday night till late on Thursday, together with the heavy and unintermitting rain during that period, have produced various disastrous occurrences near the metropolis, which, we fear will be multiplied to a sad aggregate, when intelligence shall be received from the interior of the country. Some mills and other works a few miles from the capital, situated within the range of the flood; have as we are informed, been materially injured, and in some instances altogether destroyed—all the particulars have not reached us; but we are concerned to state, among the damage of this kind effected in the neighborhood of the capital, that the Backs, Weirs, &c. at Old Bawn

paper mills are entirely swept away; the works which were very extensive, it is feared will be stopped and the people ruined. Nearly an acre and a half of Mr. Wildridge's meadow, adjacent to the mills, has been severed from the rest by the violence of the wind, and completely carried off.

The Belfast mail-coach was yesterday morning, in coming to town obliged to stop from five o'clock until nine, upon the roads between Turvey & Swords, where a river runs—so great was the deluge.

At Ringsend, the bridge, a fabric apparently of very solid and judicious construction, has yielded to the impetuous force and accumulated weight of the waters, the centre arch, and that next the city being destroyed, excepting so much on the side towards the docks, as to admit of foot passengers; but as the abutments appear to have been effected in their foundation, the remainder of the bridge is conceived to be in danger of complete destruction.

Last night, somewhat after ten, the bridge at the Coal-quay, which for several centuries refuted many tremendous assaults from the Liffey at length submitted to the irresistible impetus of that river and her auxiliary waters. Providentially no person was in passage at the moment. Two of the arches were torn from the centre before 11 o'clock, and by morning the remainder was nearly destroyed. Watchmen were stationed at both sides the water to prevent accidents.

The bridges of Lucan and Celbridge have been also destroyed.

This day various articles of household furniture, implements of husbandry, &c. were seen floating down the river.

The parts of the town situated within the influence of the Poddle stream were yesterday inundated at an early hour, to a considerable depth, Patrick-street and its vicinity in particular. In the former street several boats were employed till evening, and though the inhabitants had anticipated the event which took place, they nevertheless have sustained serious injury from the impracticability of removing the entire contents of their stores and cellars. The flood extended to New-street, Coombe, Black, Pitt, Cork-street, &c. the frightful torrents diverged from Patrick-street into Bride's Alley, Bull-alley, and the other lanes lying in a similar level.

Much distress was also experienced, though not in the same degree, by the inhabitants of other parts of the city.

The lower Castle-yard was rendered impassable to any but horsemen; and elevated carriages, and to those with difficulty; and through Palace-street, a torrent rushed across Dame-street into Crampton-courts, which caused cars, jingles, &c. to ply there for hire; in that immediate neighbourhood, & as far as College-green, the kitchens were inundated to a considerable depth; and singular inconvenience was experienced in some degree in every quarter of the town; but to-day the inundation has entirely subsided.

The damage suffered at sea, we fear, will swell the catalogue of calamity to a most afflicting degree.

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PUBLIC AUCTION.

On the 18th instant, will be sold to the highest bidder,

THAT valuable Lot of Ground on the south side of Market-street, Wilmington, 55 feet on the street and running back 66 feet; with a good stone foundation in front, and adjoining A. Hall's new brick house with the privilege of the east wall thereof, 35 feet deep & at least 50 feet high, with a toothing left for the benefit of the proprietor of said lot.

The terms of sale will be one half cash and the remainder payable in 6 months, the purchaser giving bond with approved security.

LEVY & CARROL.

March 3, 1803.