

WILMINGTON GAZETTE.

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Late Foreign News.

LONDON, May 8.

The fleet, it is said, have indicated a disposition to put to sea. We are inclined to think that this may be a feint to engage the attention of our fleet, while the other French and Spanish squadrons are effecting junctions, or putting to sea.

On the spur of this necessity and this danger, great efforts are making to fit out every ship of force for sea, and to render these the more disposable, it is intended to employ an additional number of block ships for the defence of the coast.

It is rumoured also, that it is in contemplation to call out the population, or some part of it, agreeably to the General Defence Act. Ministers seem at last alarmed, and good reason they have to be so.

There is a report too that an embargo will be laid on shipping till the destination of the French and Spanish fleets is ascertained.

It has been reported that an attack on Ferrol is the first object of Sir James Craig's armament. We fear that it is now too late. Had ministers on the first breaking out of the Spanish war, sent an expedition (which should have been ready to go the moment war was declared) to that quarter, it might have been taken without much difficulty or loss of time. It would have enabled us to take or destroy at least 15 ships of the line. Ministers are deeply responsible for the loss of that opportunity.

Letters from Lisbon state, that the most active exertions are making throughout Spain to carry on the war with all possible vigour. A body of French troops had entered Catalonia, to co-operate with the Spaniards in the siege of Gibraltar.

May 9.

Some certain accounts of Lord Nelson's fleet have at length been received. His Lordship, with six sail of the line, it is ascertained by advices which have reached government, was off Carthage on the 13th ult. standing for the treights, with an unfavorable wind. The remainder of the Noble Admiral's fleet were not at that time far distant from him; and from the course in which he was steering, little doubt can be entertained of his having received correct intelligence of the enemy. On the 12th, the Beagle sloop saw the Spanish squadron eleven leagues to the westward of Cadix; and, in the event of the wind becoming favorable for the British fleet to pass the Gut, there is every reason to hope that it will be able to come up with the enemy. Indeed, what with the chances of the weather, the extraordinary eagerness of pursuit, the superior skill of British seamen, and Lord Nelson's characteristic promptitude and perseverance, we entertain little or no doubt of a meeting, glorious, we trust, in its result, having long ere this taken place. The gallant chief of the British squadron comes not within sight of the enemy, without vigorously engaging them, and, in that case, the hero triumphs, or survives not the combat.

Government having received certain information that the enemy are determined to make every possible effort against this country; and hence have they resolved to adopt such measures as shall leave scarce any thing to chance. The enemy having ventred their fleets to sea, are now daily increasing their hostile preparations at Boulogne, the camp at which place has within the last fortnight been very considerably augmented; and our letters of yesterday inform us, that gun boats are almost every day seen steering along the coast from different ports to the grand depot. On Tuesday about one hundred of them were seen coming from the Westward; and a signal being hoisted, several of our cruisers went immediately, in pursuit of them. That the enemy are now seriously intent upon invading our shores, we entertain not the slightest doubt; but we are no less confident, that, come when they may, they will find us in a state of preparation to meet them, and that the day of combat will prove a day of glory to Britain.

Accounts reached town yesterday from Plymouth, stating that advices have been received there by a neutral ship from Charante, that on the 1st of May, a three and a two decker, full of troops, sailed from Rochefort; that an embargo had been laid on, eight days previous to their sailing, which was taken off on the 22d instant, the day on which the neutral vessel alluded to left Charante.

May 10.

Advices were received from Lord Gardner at the Admiralty yesterday. The fleet under his lordship's command consisted of 23 sail of the line; the enemy were at single anchor in Brest water, completely ready for sea. The actual amount of their force is not stated, but it is supposed to be from 21 to 23 sail of the line.

May 11.

On Tuesday last about three o'clock, a special messenger arrived at the Secretary of State's office, with the Treaty that has been so long negotiating with the court of Russia, sealed and signed in due form. This treaty is offensive and defensive, and some of the northern powers either are, or soon will be

parties to it. The public may now consider the war as commencing.

Count Worontzoff, the Russian ambassador at this court, also received dispatches at the same time, brought by a Russian courier, of the same nature with the above.

BOSTON, June 23.

FROM THE WEST-INDIES.

BY Capt. FERRER from Guadaloupe, we learn, that two French seventy-fours arrived there on the 29th of May, from Rochefort; and sailed from thence June 2 to join the combined fleets at Trinidad. The two ships, above mentioned sailed from Rochefort in company with 5 other ships of the line. How they came to separate is not stated.

Presuming on the correctness of the above information, it shews that the French and Spanish fleets must have sailed from Martinique previous to the 2nd day of June: For on that point accurate intelligence ought to have been possessed by the government of Guadaloupe. Implicit confidence, however cannot be placed on what the officers of the fleets may have said of the objects of the expedition, &c. It is a question whether many of them knew; but those who might know, would not be very communicative on the subject. Besides, it is their policy to spread erroneous reports respecting their destination. Trinidad is an important place on account of its geographical situation. The island is large, but we believe not very populous nor well cultivated. Its capture would not greatly affect the British revenue, nor the solvency of individuals in Great-Britain. It would probably be far otherwise if Jamaica was taken. The latter would be an object worthy of such a force as has been sent out from France and Spain. The former, we should conceive, would not. If the fleets sail against Trinidad, all expectation of the subjugation of Jamaica by them may subside. It will furnish much more than sufficient time for the arrival of a superior force from England. The combined fleets it is not probable will be much more increased by additional arrivals from Europe. The British Admirals before Ferrol, Brest, and the Texel, will watch those places with redoubled vigilance in consequence of the recent escapes from Toulon and Cadix. The probability is very great that no other French or Spanish fleet will depart from a European port this season without an immediate battle.

NEW-YORK, June 24.

Last evening London papers to the 28th May, were put into our possession by a gentleman passenger in the Pomona, bound to New-York, who got on board a fishing schooner off our coast, and was landed at Cape-Cod.

On the 7th May, an embargo was laid upon all British shipping in Great-Britain, and a heavy press took place in the river, and at all the ports.

A very general alarm prevailed.—The Brest fleet was stated to be at sea.—All the volunteer regiments were again hurrying to their alarm posts; and the greatest efforts were making to fit out every ship of force, in ordinary.

Some very important dispatches were said to have been received from the North side of Europe, on the 7th of May; which were immediately laid before a full Cabinet Council, and the Admiralty Board; and messengers were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to start for the continent.

On the 5th May, Mr. Pitt informed Parliament, that he had advised His Britannic Majesty to erase Lord Melville's name from the list of Privy Counsellors which his Majesty had acceded to; and that his Lordship held no places excepting such as were for life.—At the same time, Mr. Whitbread said, "he disclaimed any intention positively to charge Lord Melville with participating the profits with Trotter."

From a number of accounts from the Mediterranean, it is probable Lord Nelson's fleet had gone to Egypt, in search of the Toulon squadron. A large fleet, however, had sailed from England for the West-Indies; and the places of some of them, in the Channel fleet, had been supplied by Sir John Orde's squadron.

The expedition, under Gen. Craig, was supposed to be destined against Ferrol.

English Three per cents, May 8, were 83.

FOREIGN ARTICLES, FROM DUTCH PAPERS.

Madrid, April 2. It is thought the operations against Gibraltar will commence with vigor before the preparations making at Algiers are in complete readiness. A large flotilla is assembling there.

Cadix, March 29. It is said Lord Nelson's fleet has made its appearance off Barcelona.

Triest, (Germany) April 4. On the 20th ult. the W. S. frigate Essex, capt. Barron, carrying 40 guns, and 340 men, arrived here from Malta.

London, May 10.—We have interesting

news by the Harbour.

April 16.—We are assured Lord Nelson's squadron has returned from Egypt to Toulon. On the 12th, a fleet was seen on the Genosse coast, supposed to be English.

Advices were yesterday received at the Admiralty from Lord Gardner. His fleet consisted of 21 sail of the line—the enemy were at single anchor in Brest water, completely prepared for sea. Their force is supposed from 21 to 25 sail of the line.

Five ships of the line, and two frigates are at the Texel nearly ready for sea.

The French, it is believed, have 14,000 choice troops on board. Our force will consist of 8000 of our best men. The troops in Ireland commenced their march to Cork on the 4th inst.

The 38th, 71st and 72d regiments are on their route to Cork, to be commanded by Sir Fyre Coote, to be in readiness to follow wherever the combined squadron may (hereafter) be ascertained to have made an impression, in order to dislodge them. They are to rendezvous at Portsmouth.

RALFORD, April 10.—Lord Nelson's squadron arrived yesterday in our moorings, in pursuit of the French.

HAEUX, April 30.—Yesterday, his Excellency M. Schimmelpennick, arrived at the Old Court. In the afternoon he took the oath before the Directory of State.

June 26.

From captain Tinker, of the brig Actress, arrived last evening in 16 days from St. Pierre (Martinique,) we are informed that on the 5th June, the French and Spanish combined fleets sailed from Martinique for Guadaloupe, and left that place on the 8th June, (the day before capt. Tinker sailed for Antigua.) Capt. T. further informs that two French frigates had arrived at Martinique, which sailed from Ferrol in co. with a French and Spanish fleet of 14 sail of the line, frigates and transports, with troops bound for Martinique, and that the two frigates parted from the fleet in a gale of wind. We are also informed, that an account of a British fleet having arrived in the West-Indies had been received previous to capt. Tinker's leaving Martinique. The combined fleets captured a British ship of war, of 30 guns, in going out of Guadaloupe.

An embargo was laid on all vessels in the port of St. Anns, Jamaica, previous to the departure of sch'r Commerce; but, having cleared out, she was permitted to sail.

June 28.

Capt. Denike, in 15 days from St. Croix informs us, that news was received there the day before he sailed, that the French had taken the Island of Jamaica; that they landed 15,000 troops on the north side of the island, and marched to Kingston. Capt. D. received the above news from the American Consul just before he sailed.

Capt. Denike further informs that on the 20th of June, he spoke the brig Nancy, out 13 days from St. Kitts, for Philadelphia, the captain of which informed, that when he left St. Kitts a large French fleet was off that place. Capt. D. is the bearer of Dispatches from the British consul.

June 29.

The ship Mississippi, captain Skidmore, arrived at this port last evening in 30 days from Nantes, having on board his excellency R. R. LIVINGSTON (late minister from the United States to the French Government) his lady, and suite. The vessel left Nantes on the 27th of May. Our Paris papers by her are to the 20th inclusive, and would have furnished some interesting intelligence had not the most important part of their contents been anticipated by late arrivals from London and Liverpool.

We learn verbally, and by the papers in our possession, that Buonaparte arrived at Milan on the 8th May, for the purpose of being crowned King of Italy, and would pass through Brussels on his return; that the Brest fleet had not sailed; that the existence of a treaty between Russia and Great-Britain was not known in France; and that no new movements of consequence had taken place in any part of Europe.

Madame Jerome Buonaparte had arrived at Amsterdam, but was not permitted to land, and the ship was ordered to sail immediately, destination not known.

Mr. Livingston is the bearer of bills drawn by the American minister at Paris on the treasury of the United States under the treaty of Louisiana; and it is supposed that all the creditors under that treaty will receive their bills in the course of the summer.

The Mississippi has on board 150,000 francs, in bills on the French treasury, for the relief of distressed Frenchmen in America.

In the suite of the American Minister,

Mr. R. Livingston and Mr. Livingston of the Hon. Rufus King.

PHILADELPHIA, June 27.

A letter from a gentleman in N. Orleans to his correspondent in this city, says—

"The report of the day is, that measures have been taken to dispossess the Spaniards of the lands between the Rio Perdido and the Mississippi, and that officers had been sent to different posts to execute these measures. The same letter adds: 'I have just seen the Marquis de Casa Calvo, who tells me that Governor Claiborne's communications to him are of the most pacific nature—that he (the governor) had given instructions to repress any tumult or disturbance that might happen.'

At the close of the letter it is stated, 'A letter received by the mail from Baton Rouge, which says, an attack was expected to be made on the Fort—so that you will perceive the idea expressed in the beginning of my letter is prevalent in that part of the country.'

June 28.

Capt Smithwick, in 25 days from Liverpool, informs, that there was an embargo on all British merchant ships throughout England and Ireland the 10th of May.

BALTIMORE, June 27.

NEUTRAL RIGHTS RESPECTED.

Capt. Travers arrived at this port from Jamaica, was credibly informed by a person who was present, when the prize Master of the sch'r William and Mary, made his report to Admiral Deeres, informing him that she was an American schooner, he replied, "it was right, damn them, send them all in." He can confidently say they neither received equity nor justice.

William Savage, agent for claiming American seamen in Kingston, Jamaica, resigned his office on the 20th ult.

Capt. Travers advises people of colour sailing in American vessels and belonging to the United States, not to trust themselves with only a note or a certificate, as it is not sufficient to prevent them from being pressed into the service of his Britannic majesty.

[American.]

July 1.

ANTIGUA TAKEN.

A letter received in town last evening from St. Thomas, dated June 16th, states that the combined fleets then consisted of THIRTY-TWO sail, one half of which went against and captured Antigua. It adds, that the harbor of St. Thomas was crowded with vessels of every description from Antigua, waiting till the storm had subsided.

Capt. Haylander, from Marin, (Martinique) informs that the whole of the combined fleet sailed from Martinique on the 6th ult. except two 80 gun ships and a frigate, just arrived from France.—On the 13th captain Haylander passed Antigua, and saw a large fleet in the dusk of the evening, off the harbor of St. John's standing off, and apparently making observations, which he believes was the French fleet, as the number corresponded, & they all appeared to be large ships.—The probability was, that they had only arrived there that day, after taking in at Guadaloupe such particulars as they had occasion for.—The general opinion at Martinique was, that the taking of Antigua would be their first object. Previous to their leaving Martinique three 74's were sent against Diamond Rock, garrisoned by 117 British troops, who made little resistance, and capitulated after a siege of four days.—The garrison were sent to Barbadoes in a cartel.—The French frigate which arrived last from France, brought dispatches in 27 days from L'Orient, but nothing of their contents transpired.

Our readers will have seen, that we have along discredited the reports that Lord Nelson had passed into the Atlantic ocean, in pursuit of the Toulon fleet. It is now confirmed by captain Dyer from Gibraltar, that he (Nelson) had not passed the treights, the 26th April, 17 days after the French passed; but that a cutter had arrived, which met with his lordship's fleet, proceeding towards Egypt.—When Lord Nelson was informed of the sailing of the Toulon fleet, part of his squadron was at Malta, to which place, it is highly probable, he was proceeding to join them; and there ascertain, from his numerous cruisers, whether the French had proceeded for Egypt—after which, he would sail for the treights; This could not be effected under thirty days;—the probability, therefore is, that he did not arrive at Gibraltar until some time in May.

The quidnuncs were erroneous in their conjectures, that the expedition from England, under general Craig, was destined,