

EXTRACTS

From Paris papers received at the Office of the Public Ledger.

PARIS, March 7.

The last victories of the grand army have secured the advantage of its military positions, completed the successes of this prodigious campaign, and prepared those of the next, should the blindness of the Russian cabinet lead it to persist in a war prejudicial to its true interests.

The French army, by reaching the banks of the Vistula, after having conquered Westphalia, Hesse, Prussia, Saxony, Silesia and Prussian Poland, surpassed the expectations of even those who had hoped the most from his courage. Such labours would form the whole history of a great commander, and they are, however, only two months of the life of Napoleon. At this stage, the inclemency of the season, the difficulty of the marches, the scarcity of subsistence, and the advantage of the positions, prescribed a suspension of the operations: the French army seemed to have no more to do, but to consummate the conquest of Silesia and Prussian Poland, to clear the left bank of the Vistula and establish fortified posts upon the right, so be able to assume the offensive as soon as it would be convenient.

This also appeared to be the aim of the emperor. Some Prussian officers, thoroughly informed of the situation of their country with regard to Russia, since the dismemberment of Poland, had seen that Prussia had only an ill-defended frontier, that her armies, to be able to attack the Russians, had to pass through a difficult country, intersected, wild, and impracticable for 6 months in the year; whereas at the first signal, a Russian army might in a few days march, take possession, almost without firing a shot, of ancient Prussia and her Polish provinces, as far as the Vistula. This disadvantageous position has no doubt often influenced the decision of the cabinet of Berlin, in the part it was to take between France and Russia. It had been in agitation to draw a defensive line from Warsaw as far as Konigsberg, but this measure would have suddenly failed a dangerous war. It is very singular that this plan should have been partly realized by the last operations of the grand army.

The first care of the Emperor, upon arriving on the Vistula, was to fortify himself there. The Russian general felt the importance of his position, and wished to dislodge him: the successes of the battles of Pultusk and Golymin rendered this barrier inexpugnable, and it became the centre of the successive operations. It was a point from whence the emperor directed the whole army, and a position equally important to observe the march of the Russian and Ottoman armies, which were advancing towards the theatre of war.

In this dangerous situation for them the Russian generals attempted a difficult diversion. Whilst they were really upon the defensive before an army ever victorious, despairing of being able to defend themselves in front, they demanded to attack the French army upon its flanks, to stretch beyond it by the lower Vistula, and thus disengage Dantzic, Graudentz and the whole country, which could not avoid being soon occupied by the French army. Thus even the despair of being able to defend themselves, inspired them with the audacity of attacking; and the ill success of this attack, was a complete defeat.

But a feeble division of the French army induced at first to stop the unexpected march of the Russians, and being fooled on by the Emperor in person, it beat the enemy and carried its conquest sixty leagues farther than his majesty had thought of advancing before the spring.

The attack of the Russians, therefore, completely miscarried. To stop, was to defeat them. The deliverance of Dantzic and Polish Prussia, was its object; their entire conquest is the immediate effect of this expedition, and the French army has acquired finer positions from it. No victory that could have been attended with more advantageous results.

March 10.

The last intelligence from the theatre of war fully confirms the brilliant successes of the French army. But at the very moment when a more terrible campaign is preparing on all sides, it is singular that rumours of peace circulate, die away, and are renewed at different intervals.

As it is well known that the object which the emperor of the French proposes to himself in this war, is only a general and solid peace; as he always shows himself accessible to any propositions, directly or indirectly, which may tend to this end and accelerate this happy period, the most vague circumstances may give rise to rumours of peace, and perhaps some foundation would also be found in them if only the relative situation and real interest of the belligerent powers were consulted.

It is true that a great part of Europe is engaged in this contest; but notwithstanding its apparent heat, notwithstanding the immensity of the preparations, it may be remarked that the enemies of France have such different interests among themselves, that they must sometimes assist each other with misgiving, and fight her with regret.

We see a great example of this. The policy of the cabinet of St. James's has perhaps never been more embarrassed than at this day, in the situation it is in between the Porte and Russia. It can hardly be doubted but that it clearly sees the danger of this war, and that it greeds the successes of it almost as much as its reverses. It ought to use all its endeavours to prevent it, by inspiring Russia with more moderate sentiments. But Russia has never served its commercial ambition on any other condition than that of its shutting its eyes to the continental usurpations of the court of St. Petersburg; thus England has been forced to sacrifice the interests of the future, to the passions of the moment, and to emulate her benefactors to those who may one day become her tyrants.

What has been said of the hostilities of admiral Louis, before Constantinople, is ridiculous. Scarcely has the official intelligence of the determination of the Divan, yet reached London. Notwithstanding the example of admiral Sir Home Popham, it is not to be presumed that an English admiral will take upon himself to attack without orders, a power yet considered as friendly.

There is more reason for being astonished that the war between the Turks and the Russians has not taken a more active turn. But the forces which Michelson has been obliged to detach to the succour of the Russian army in Poland, have perhaps too much weakened his own to allow him to undertake important operations. Besides, he expected to find an open country and revolted subjects all ready to join their arms to his; whereas it appears that the common danger has united all the subjects of the Porte under the standard of the Prophet.

March 12.

The Gazettes of Presburgh, which had announced the passage of the Russian army near Widdin, now contradict their own report and assert that Michelson, reduced to a corps of 30,000 men, thinks rather of fortifying himself against the arrival of the Turks than of making conquests. A great part of the troops with which he entered Moldavia, suddenly received orders to repair by forced marches to the assistance of the Russian army in Poland; and it is probably that to the arrival of this reinforcement the Russians owe the bloody defeat which they have just experienced along the whole line from the Sprengel to the Bug, since it was this succour that had emboldened them to attempt their attack upon the Grand French Army. Thus the emperor Napoleon at once beat the Russians in Poland and effected a powerful diversion in favour of his ally, by preventing them from penetrating into Turkey!

The same Gazettes of Presburgh publish the royal letters by which his majesty the emperor of Austria convokes for the 5th of April next, the Diet of his States of Hungary. The spirit and tenor of this convocation are essentially pacific and suffice to belie the absurd rumours which the newspapers sold to England had spread upon the dispositions of the court of Vienna.

March 14.

The manifesto of the Sublime Porte (published in the Ledger some time since) is an important document in the history of the last twenty years of the age. One is astonished upon reading it, that the Porte should have suffered so many iniquities and that the neighbouring powers should have tolerated this long oppression, which was only the prelude to an approaching and complete usurpation.

No doubt the Sublime Porte stood in need of a Manifesto to justify the war which she had just declared against Russia. All Europe had seen the progress of the audacity and violence of the Russians. No one was ignorant of the invasion of the Crimea, nor of the connections which the Russian cabinet had formed in the midst and in the very capital of the Ottoman Empire. Every body saw that this pretended protection of the Republic of the Seven Islands, had converted itself, on the part of Russia, into absolute dominion; it had even been foreseen that the raising of the Montenegrins, the arming of the Albanians and the occupation of the Mouths of the Cattaro, were perhaps less offensive means against France than open hostilities against the Turks. But these grievances let forth by the Sublime Porte itself with so much simplicity and energy, are a fligmatizing accusation against the Russian cabinet. At the same time that it so openly violated treaties, and meditated the ruin of a great empire, it affected before the other European pow-

er, an hypocritical moderation: it wished to be their arbiter, and by the patronage which it claimed in the affairs of Germany, it hoped to pave the way to the complete enslaving of the other states.

Constant in its progress, dazzling Prussia and Austria by concessions which it knew how to get back from them with interest when it should be time, it kept up a continual fermentation in Europe; by vain promises or tardy succours, it excited or rekindled hatreds ready to be extinguished. In this project, which every thing seemed to favour, it is happy that there should have arisen from the very midst of the dangers assembled against France, a coolness of glory and power sufficiently formidable to save Europe from calamities which signalized the fall of the Roman Empire.

The Manifesto of the Ottoman Porte, who has been forced for these twenty years past to undergo the outrages of an insupportable oppressor, is the first pledge of general safety and a shining mark of the confidence with which the Emperor Napoleon inspires his allies. The reasons and style of this state paper bespeak an indignation long roused by necessity, and announce a firm resolution to throw off the yoke and to recover the Ottoman independence and glory.

This generous movement impressed upon the whole nation, has not been sullied by the private violence that sometimes attends the hostile declarations of the Porte; which gives reason to think that the Turkish nation will maintain the more courageously their dispute and rights in the field of honour. The Ottoman army which is to assemble under the orders of the Grand Vizier at the beginning of April, will be very numerous; and if until then the Turkish corps of the northern provinces can stop Michelson, it is not to be doubted that the next campaign will open with memorable success, and that the Turks, animated by the example of their powerful allies and the remembrance of their own wrongs, will perhaps soon recover the absolute possession of the provinces which fedition, intrigue or violence have wrested from them against the faith of treaties.

From the N. Y. Public Advertiser of April 29.

The following is the Memorial (to which Mr. R. Saunders alludes in his letters which we published yesterday) of the unfortunate prisoners confined in the dungeons of Carthage. The dupes of Anglo-Federal intrigue and British policy. However we may lament the misfortunes of the sufferers, we must execrate the authors of this infamous expedition. To what a state of degradation and misery would they reduce their country had they once more the power in their hands which they have lost. Can any man doubt, that the armament was fitted out for the most dangerous and wicked purposes, destined to bring ruin and disgrace upon our government. We have the authority of Captain C. Barker's name for the authenticity of this memorial. Read it Americans—and shudder while you read.

MEMORIAL.

The memorial of twenty citizens of the U. S. of America, confined under sentences of slavery in the dominions of his Catholic Majesty the king of Spain, to the President, Senate and House of Representatives,

Sheweth, that your memorialists are residents of the U. S. of America, and for the most part of the state and city of New York, and are part of a number of men of the same description, who were brought from N. Y. in February last, in the ship Leander, Thomas Lewis, commander, under circumstances of treachery and imposition that your memorialists will proceed to explain. Of the ship Leander Samuel G. Ogden, Esq. has been known for some time as owner, and that vessel has always been employed by him in a forced trade, for which purpose she has been heavily armed, in consequence of which her warlike equipment when she last left N. Y. excited no suspicion on the part of the public in general, nor in the breasts of your memorialists, of any unfair or illicit transaction. Of the whole number of your memorialists, some were attached to the vessel, some were employed for military service, and others for the exercise of their ordinary occupations and trades. Those of the first description were shipped in the usual manner, on a voyage to Jamaica and back to N. Y. and the rest were engaged by Col. Wm. Smith, Mr. John Fink, Col. Wm. Armstrong, and Mr. Daniel R. Durning, to proceed to New Orleans, under the command of Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Durning, who had been appointed by government it was said, to carry thither a certain number of men as guards to the mails. Under the influence of these engagements your memorialists embarked at Staten Island in the beginning of February last, and were carried immediately to sea.

Shortly after leaving the port it was discovered that General Miranda was on board, together with a number of persons not before known to your memorialists, who appeared in the character of officers, acting under his command. This discovery, as well as the development of the duplicity that had manifestly been employed in making known the destination of the vessel, bred inmediate apprehensions and mistrust in a lesser degree at a period when retreat was no longer practicable.

The ship proceeded on her voyage—in the neighbourhood of Bermuda, was examined by his Britannic Majesty's frigate Cleopatra, Capt. White, who suffered her to pass, notwithstanding the discovery that she was laden with arms and warlike stores, and arrived at Jamaica on the 19th of February, where the vessel remained until the 27th of March following.

During this interval much discontent was occasioned among your memorialists, inasmuch as they now found themselves in a country, whither they had not undertaken nor expected to proceed; as they were compelled to exercise themselves in military duty, under the most arbitrary exercise of power on the part of Gen. Miranda, Col. Armstrong, & Mr. Durning, prevented from writing to their friends in the U. S. & kept in ignorance as to the ultimate object of the coercion under which they suffered & the final destination of the vessel. The disgust and anxiety produced by this severity and compulsion, occasioned some among your memorialists to attempt an escape to Port-au-Prince, or some other Port of St. Domingo, where they might receive assistance and protection from their countrymen: but the wariness and precaution of those into whose power they had been entrapped, had prepared such diligence in the patrols of the town, as rendered this effort abortive, and left them with out resource against the misfortunes that awaited them. In Jamaica the schooners Bee & Bacchus of Philadelphia were employed to accompany the ship in her voyage. On board of these vessels your memorialists were obliged to embark, and left St. Domingo on the 27th March. After having touched at the island of Aruba for refreshment, the three vessels proceeded towards the coast of Terra Firma, between Lagaira and Porto Cabello, where they arrived on the 28th of April and where the two Schooners in which your memorialists were embarked, (being deserted by the Leander having on board Gen. Miranda and others, who had been most active in effecting the measure already detailed) were captured by two Spanish cruisers and carried into Porto Cabello, where all those taken in those two vessels were proceeded against under a charge of piracy and portage of articles contraband of war, inasmuch as there were found on board the aforementioned vessels, muskets, sabres and many other offensive weapons which had been placed there without the aid, concurrence or voluntary act of your memorialists, in any manner whatever.

On the 19th of July, this process was closed by the Captain General of Carraccas, by a sentence condemning ten (who were considered to have been wilfully engaged) to death—nineteen to eight years slavery at Boca-Chica, a castle at the mouth of this harbour—fourteen to ten years slavery at Omoa in the province of Mexico—and fourteen to ten years imprisonment at the island of Porto Rico. The ten who received sentence of death were hanged and beheaded on the 21st of July; and your memorialists, together with their companions, sentenced to Boca-Chica, with others, who are prevented by sickness from joining in this memorial, and two who have died in consequence of severe confinement and want of food fit for their support, were soon after removed to this place, where they have been about three months. Your memorialists are in close confinement and in fetters, and will remain so until they are separated and removed to their respective stations at Omoa and Porto Rico.

Your memorialists predicate their right to claim the interference of government in their behalf, on the authenticity and veracity of the statement they have offered; and to establish these to your conviction, they beg that the undermentioned persons who are informed of the intrigues exercised by Col. Smith and others, his associates, to the injury of your memorialists, may be examined on oath, viz. Mr. Daniel Kemper, of N. Y. whose son was executed—Col. Marinus Willet, of N. Y. Mr. Brinckhoff, tavern keeper, of N. Y. Mr. Wm. Rutledge, ship joiner, of N. Y. Mr. Samuel Winship and Mr. Francis White, butchers, of N. Y. And to authenticate the coercive measures under which your memorialists suffered at Jamaica they beg you to be referred to Mr. James Baker, Mr. Wm. Irving, Capt. Abbot, of the brig Charleston Packet, Capt. Walding, of sch'r Victory, all of Philadelphia, were there at the time; and if it be proved by the joint testimony of these persons, that the relations of your memorialists be worthy of credit, that they have been betrayed and entrapped by the cunning engines of specious, needy and designing men, who still remain within the reach of the law, in situations to be made responsible in their persons for the confusion and misery they have created, surely the innocence of your memorialists will appear sufficiently manifest, and they will still be considered by the constituted authorities of their country, entitled to its protection and assistance. And your memorialists will ever pray, &c.

P. S. In the sentence of your memorialists it was mentioned, that should the United States or any of their friends arrest and deliver up Miranda to the Spanish government they should be all restored to liberty, and a reward of 30,000 dollars paid. Your memorialists have embraced several opportunities for the conveyance of this memorial to your honorable body, directed to gentlemen residing in Boston, New-York, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

FOR SALE,

Liverpool Salt
English Grindstones
Tobacco Pipes, in Crates and Boxes by
May 19. THOMAS ARCHIBALD.