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HAGUE, Dec. 1.

The discussions on the plan of a new constitution for this republic, have lasted in the Batavian national assembly, until the 28th November. Never perhaps were opinions so decidedly, we may even say so equally divided. Nobody it is true, maintains that it is above criticism, or that it does not require some material alterations in several respects,—such especially, as an assembly of seven persons which under the name of council of state would not only enjoy executive but with respect to the promulgation and execution of the laws would be vested with prohibitory powers—of so much the greater magnitude, as although the authority of the council of State would not exceed that of the executive directory of France, yet the legislative body is not to have a permanent session, and would be represented during its vacations by a small deputation from the house of ancients. With respect to the second point in debate, viz. that respecting the unity and indivisibility of the republic—the modifications of the plan by the establishment of department administrations, met with as many opposers as advocates, by reason of the double difficulty of making the debts of some of the states common to all—and of ascertaining the true ratio of the relative means of each province (each having different resources and means of subsisting their inhabitants) to bear their equal proportion of the taxes and imposts. The 20th was finally fixed upon to decide, under the presidency of citizen Ybrand Van Hamelveld. This difficult and important question, on which a number of citizens of different towns had petitioned in favor of an absolute unity; this step has procured them the gratification of an honorable agreement without approving the tenor of their resolutions.

Some members proposed to make the plan the basis of the deliberations, and to appoint a commission which within four weeks should bring in a report on the means of effecting the absolute unity with respect to the general finances and taxes. But this conciliatory proposition not being adopted after some disorder either in the assembly itself or in the galleries, the nominal appeal decided by a majority of 66 to 52 votes, that the proposed plan of constitution should form the basis of the national assembly's deliberations."

A letter from Vienna of Nov. 26 mentions that a nobleman had arrived from Italy, with the news of the murderous battles, of which we have had the details:—On account of the retreat of Alvenzy, the Emperor had determined to send him a reinforcement of 12,000 men.

By letters from Presburg of Nov. 22, it appears that the diet at Presburg, have granted to the Emperor the following supplies for the prosecution of the war: 50,000 Hungarians, exclusive of those requisite to complete the regiments already in the field—22,000 Oxen—10,000 Horses—2,400,000 Bushels of grain—3,760,000 do. oats. And in case the numbers at present granted, are not sufficient to obtain an honorable peace, a general raising "en masse," will be determined on.

The Austrian official account of the battles in Italy nearly agree with the French, but the former represent the loss on each side as nearly equal.—Among the prisoners taken by Davidovich at Rivolo, were two French Generals, Florella and Valette.

A new convention between the French republic and Genoa excludes the English from the Genoese ports, during the war, and the vessels of the latter are prohibited to carry provisions to the British. Genoa is to protect her own forts and harbors, but in case of necessity, she is to be aided by French troops. If Genoa shall be involved

in a war with England, France will undertake to protect her trade and navigation, and will assist her with ships of war and intercede for her in negotiations for peace. Genoa pays to France 2 millions of livres in advances, and 2 millions to be refunded after peace.

SALEM, February 17.

WAR IN INDIA,

Between Tipoo Saib and the English. By captain Derby, in the brig Cadet, 67 days from the Cape of Good Hope, we are informed, that a few days previous to his touching at the Cape, two British packets had arrived there, one from Calcutta, and the other from Bombay. That notwithstanding a profound secrecy was observed respecting the intelligence they brought, it had transpired that Tipoo was making formidable preparations for war; that the Maharrats were disaffected, and were about to join him.

It was consequently reported that 4 or 500 French officers had been sent over by the way of the Mediterranean, to serve in Tipoo's army. It was not certain that hostilities had actually commenced, but that the British every day expected an attack. Immediately after the arrival of the packets, four British regiments were sent on in the outward bound India fleet, consisting of 17 sail under convoy of one ship of war and a frigate.

Tipoo can with ease bring an army of 200,000 well disciplined men into the field. His soldiers (Seapoys) are equal to any Europeans in that country, who are soon after their arrival enervated by the climate. He is dreaded by the English, and is their mortal and declared enemy. He is a prince of known courage and address, and very powerful. His avowed plan is to drive these usurpers (as he justly calls the English) from the Indian territory altogether—and he has been once near effecting it, and may do so again. His supply of French officers is a valuable acquisition, and what he most needed—they were undoubtedly sent by the Executive Directory of France. Indeed this business was always a favourite contemplation of that government; but which the revolution for a time has prevented.

Gen. Dundas has arrived at the Cape, to supersede gen. Craig in the command of the garrison at that place. Lord Macartney was expected daily. Gen. Craig had received an appointment in India, & was to go on there immediately after Lord Macartney's arrival. This circumstance is joyous to the inhabitants of the Cape, and auspicious to the Americans who may arrive there. Gen. Craig treated them with ineffable contempt, whenever they solicited the least indulgence. When they entered his apartment, he assumed the air and dignity of a Nabob, strutted like a coxeted player as soon as their prayers were made known, damned the American flag, and invoked the vengeance of heaven on their cursed heads. This redoubtable general was an officer in America during the war, and was compelled to be present at York-town, when Cornwallis resigned his sword to the illustrious Washington. Scotchmen have good memories, and the old general's will end only with his life. The inhabitants anticipated with pleasure the arrival of Lord Macartney, who is a complete gentleman (the very reverse of Craig) and under whose government they had no doubt of renewing their former trade and intercourse with the Americans.

The late admiral Lucas, whose heroism cannot now be sullied, was treated with every indignity by the inhabitants at Cape-town, for his dastardly conduct in delivering up the fleet under his command to the English, at a time when he might have immortalized his name, and revived the ancient glory of the Batavian flag. It is asserted, that like the Dutch governor of the Cape, he was charmed by English gold-fishes, and like another Arnold, basely betrayed his country.

BOSTON, February 27.

Saturday morning about half past eight o'clock, this town was alarmed at the cry of FIRE, occasioned by the copper of the

tar house belonging to Messrs. Tyler and Caswell, boiling over, which instantly caught some hemp, contiguous; the flame of which spread so rapidly, that notwithstanding the exertions of the citizens to stop its progress, the ropewalks of Tyler and Caswell, John Winthrop, Esq. Jeffery and Russel, and four dwelling houses, were consumed, together with an immense stock of hemp and cordage, the whole loss computed to amount to 80,000 dollars. By the usual exertions of the citizens of this and of our brethren in Roxbury, Charleston, Cambridge and other neighboring towns, this devouring element was subdued in about 2 hours.

PHILADELPHIA, March 8.

At a dinner given on Saturday, by the merchants of this city, to General Washington, the following toasts were drank, in addition to those in our paper of Monday.

VOLUNTEER TOASTS.

By George Washington.

Prosperity to the commerce of Pennsylvania, and to that of the United States generally.

May a spirit of justice among nations, soon dispel the clouds with which it is at present overcast, and conducted upon the said principles of honesty, and liberality—May its blessings be diffused thro' the world.

By the Vice-President.

Eternal union of sentiment, between the commerce and agriculture of our country. The following were given by the public ministers and others.

May this country of equality treat all her friends equally.

Success to the pursuits of the farmer of Mount Vernon.

May America take pride in herself.

May every nation feel herself as independent of her friends as of her enemies.

Public gratitude: May America ever have reason to celebrate it, as the first of virtues and first of duties.

May love of country rise superior to party politics—and the interests of America be the order of the day.

The Man whose integrity merits the confidence of us all.

The virtues of a public life crowned by the happiness of his country.

Good crops, pleasant gales, and quiet times to the Farmer of Mount Vernon.

The friends of America in every country.

A new edition of the old book.

The claims of America: May they be vindicated with firmness, whilst founded in justice.

Equality: May those who demand it, be compelled to render it.

In acquitting our debts to our friends, let us not forget what we owe to ourselves.

The ministers under the late President—May their virtues and abilities be perpetuated.

May the Union, Liberty, and Prosperity of America, be rendered perpetual by an adherence to the principles and policy of Washington.

At a Benefit given at the Boston Theatre, for the prisoners from Algiers, the sum of eight hundred and eighty-seven dollars was raised. Excellent example.

During the entertainment at Albany, in honor of the President's birth day, the following note addressed to the Governor, was read from the chair, and thereupon three chiefs were admitted to the honor of the company.

To the Great Sachem of the state of New-York.

Brother—Attend!

By the goodness of the Great Spirit we are allowed to see the birth day of the Father of the United States; which you em-