

The Newbern Gazette.

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Foreign Intelligence.

From the "Courier" an opposition Paper.
LONDON, September 17.

On Saturday we topped the Press to state the important intelligence, received that day at the India House, of the French troops having taken possession of Kofetta, Damietta, and Cairo. This news, which was brought to London by an express from Mr. Lisle, the agent of the India Company at Constantinople, comes through a channel which can leave no doubt with regard to its truth. It is curious to observe, however, that every successful operation of Buonaparte is uniformly preceded by some extravagant account of its ruin. It would seem that the journalists of Germany had determined that the first one should serve as a foil to his achievements, and that the splendor of his successes should atonish us the more, by reaching us immediately after the false reports of the disasters they state to have befallen him.

Before the nature of the dispatches received at the India House was communicated to the Public, it was stated that an army of 50,000 Arabs had opposed the progress of the French general in Egypt, and defeated him with the loss of eight thousand killed, and two thousand prisoners. Though this report was putted at Lloyd's, it appeared to us so absurd, that we did not think it necessary to delay our publication to insert it on Saturday and we should not notice it now, had it not found its way into the other papers of that evening.

Nothing but the most perfect ignorance of the situation of Egypt, could have gained a moment's credit to this story. The Arabs have no interest in obstructing the progress of the French, and their wandering hordes could do no injury to the army Buonaparte commands, if they were inclined to oppose it.

It is equally ridiculous to suppose that Buonaparte sustained much loss in taking the towns of Kofetta, Damietta and Cairo. The fortifications of these places are of the most insignificant kind, and the Beys and their Mamlouks, can scarcely be expected to have made a show of resistance.

It was necessary that Buonaparte should have secured the possession of Egypt, before he proceeded further on his route to India, in order that he may preserve a communication with France.

It is reported, that the Chief Bey Sheck Beland has joined the French, and frustrated their march to Suez where Buonaparte and his army are said to have embarked on the 5th or 10th of August.

Sept. 21.

Sun Office, half past 1, P. M.

We stop the press to announce, that we learn from undoubted authority, that by the admiralty telegram, intelligence has just been conveyed, of a French paper of the 15th having been this forenoon landed at Dover, containing the very gratifying information of an action having taken place between admiral Nelson and the French fleet, in which the British was happily victorious.

Two Mails from Dublin arrived this morning.

From the newspapers of Thursday last we have extracted the proceedings of the Irish Parliament, and every other article of their contents worthy of notice, but of the intelligence brought by this mail, that which will most interest the friends of humanity, is to be found in the following Proclamation. Our readers will see with pleasure the mild and philanthropic measures of the Lord Lieutenant still successfully opposed to the sanguinary disposition of certain pretended Saviours of Ireland, and that the appeals to vengeance to the

Orange Party have once more been made in vain.

By the Lord Lieutenant General, and General governor of Ireland.

A PROCLAMATION. CORNWALLIS.

Whereas, it appears, that during the late invasion, many of the inhabitants of the county of Mayo, and counties adjacent, did join the French forces, and did receive from them arms and ammunition; and whereas it may be expedient to admit such persons to mercy, who have been intigated thereto by designing men. We do hereby promise his Majesty's Pardon to any person who has joined the enemy provided he surrenders himself to any of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, or to any of his Majesty's officers, and delivers up a true and correct account of the arms and ammunition in his possession, and provided he has not served in any higher capacity than that of private.

This proclamation to be in force for thirty days from the date hereof.

Given at his Majesty's Castle of Dublin, this 12th day of September, 1798.

By the Lord Lieutenant's command,

CORNWALLIS.

Sept. 23.

A mail arrived from Dublin this morning, which brought letters and papers to the 15th inst. Their contents are interesting.

By letters from Constantinople of a recent date, and which amount in fact to official authority, it seems certain that Buonaparte had received a very considerable defeat near Kofetta, in consequence of which he was obliged to encamp and entrench himself. In this situation he could neither advance nor retreat, while the Arabs were collected in immense numbers with the determination to attack and overwhelm him. From a view of the maps and after a temperate consideration of all circumstances, we are strengthened in our opinion that the account of Buonaparte having possessed himself of Grand Cairo, must be unfounded. It is a march of 120 or 130 miles through a country presenting innumerable difficulties to an army, and more particularly when that army must be harassed and beset by such superior numbers.

The admiralty have received no account of Sir Horatio Nelson having sailed from Syracuse, on the 26th of July.

Extract of a letter from capt. B. Barry, of his Majesty's ship Vanguard.

"Vanguard at sea off Candia, July 9, 1798.

"We left the Rock of Gibraltar on the 9th of May, and arrived off Toulon the 17th, on the 20th took a brig from Smyrna; on the same night a most tremendous storm arose, in which we carried away all our top-masts, and lost our fore-mast, which rendered us a complete wreck; on the 22d we arrived at Saratonia and refitted, and went to sea again in 4 days; on the 7th of June were joined by ten 18d of the line and a 50 gun ship—on the 17th looked into Naples Bay, and communicated with Sir W. Hamilton; in 6 days from Sicily we arrived at Alexandria, they had heard the French were coming, and were determined to repel them. The government was determined, should they land, to begin by cutting off the head of their confederates, and all that were in the French interest and said he would serve us the same, if we attempted to land any force—he said this to the officer, we sent on shore—we are now going into Syracuse to wood and water, &c. &c.

"Admiral Nelson, and the fleet are all in good health."

The most marked civilities continue to pass between the Spanish Admiral, and Lord St. Vincent. The letter from captain Manly Dixon, giving an account of his action with the Spanish frigates and his

capture of La Dorothea, came through Spain, and was sent off by admiral Malfarado, by a flag of truce to the British admiral. This is being civil indeed!

By the exchange of prisoners about to be carried into effect, this country will get back about 4000 good seamen.

September 24.

The letters received by Lady Nelson, from Sir Horatio, were dated on the 20th July from Syracuse. As might naturally be expected, the gallant Admiral expresses the deepest regret at not having been able to fall in with the French fleet. He adds a confident hope, however, that he may yet have an opportunity of grappling with the L'Orient, the French admiral's ship.

Sir Richard Carr Glyn, it is generally thought, will be elected Lord Mayor of London for the ensuing year. A more proper and respectable successor cannot be found for the present worthy chief magistrate of the city.

The reports of the secret committees of the Irish House of Parliament, to which we took occasion to call the particular attention of our readers, form altogether a claim of the best panegyric upon the vigilance and vigour of Earl Camden's administration in Ireland. By the admission and evidence of the Rebels themselves, they were forced into action before they were prepared for it, and it was evidently the energy of the government, thus judiciously directed, that tended to render the suppression of the rebellion so easy and decisive. Had the rebels been allowed to wait their own time for declaring themselves, they would doubtless have been more formidable, inasmuch as their plans would have been ripened, and of more general operation. It is but justice to the public character and conduct of earl Camden to make remarks which so obviously arise from the examinations and evidence of the Irish traitors.

The price of drugs and medicines imported from the Levant, &c. have lately had a considerable rise of not less than 100 per cent. on many of the articles particularly camphor, opium, rhubarb, and cochineal.

Copy of a letter from Captain Dixon, of his Majesty's ship the Lyon, to admiral the Earl of St. Vincent, dated at sea, the 16th of July, 1798.

It is with the greatest pleasure I have the honor to inform your lordship, that yesterday morning at 9 o'clock, Carthagea bearing N. 79 W. distant, 29 leagues, I had the good fortune to fall in with a squadron of Spanish frigates; as per margin*, and that after having brought them to close action, about a quarter past eleven o'clock, which lasted with great warmth till ten minutes past one, P. M. The enemy was totally defeated and put to flight, leaving the Dorothea to her fate, having hoisted an English ensign with the union downwards; and as I considered her in the greatest distress, I lost not a moment in taking possession, which was done in the face of the three remaining frigates, distant about two miles on my weather bow.

In detailing the particulars of the above affair, I have to inform your lordship, that at the hour the frigates were defeated in the S. E. quarter, the Lyon was steering east with a crowd of sail, the wind moderate at W. S. W. and as I soon discovered by their signals and manœuvres they were enemies, I immediately cleared ship for action, which being et-

* *Pomona*, of 41 guns and 350 men, Felix O'Neil, Commander, Don Francis Villamil, Captain.

Dorothea, of 43 guns and 370 men, Don Manuel Guerra, Captain.

Cassido, of 42 guns, and 350 men, Don Dean Perara, Captain. *Prispine*, of 42 guns, 350 men, Junjo Bial, Captain.

They all sailed from Carthagea the 8th instant on a cruise.

fecting in the shortest time I ever recollect to have seen; I acquainted the officers and ship's company with my intention of immediately bringing the frigates to the closest action possible; and observing the cheerfulness, with which it was received, I determined not to lose a moment to profit thereby, and accordingly took in studding sails and firstreefs of the topmasts, in order to secure the fighting of the lower battery, and hauled up towards the frigates which were steering for the Lyon. Having secured the weather gage, I bore down on the enemy, who was forming in a close order of battle on the larboard line of steering: the third frigate from the van had lost her fore top-mast. It immediately occurred to me that the crippled ship was my object, in order to secure a general action; supposing that a Spaniard (from the nobleness of his character) would never with so superior a force, forsake a friend in distress. In this I fortunately succeeded; and steering for, and closing with the crippled ship, which was now become the sternmost in the line of battle, the other three frigates ranked in succession and passed the Lyon very gallantly, within musquet shot; but as their line, after tacking, was by no means a close one, they each received a well directed broadside from the Lyon;—the good effect of which was very visible by their standing a considerable time on that tack. I still continued to steer for the crippled ship, who, nearly sailing as fast as the Lyon, galled her very considerably in the rigging by her stern castles.

The three frigates made a second close attempt, but not so close as the former, to support her, and were each fully repaid by an exchange of broadsides. At length we closed with the crippled ship, and poured in a destructive fire, the yard arms being just clear of each other; the nevertheless did not strike for some time. At this period I found the Lyon totally ungovernable, having all her braces, bow-ling, close gaskets, &c. shot away, the fore sail nearly rendered useless, and the other sails much torn.

The three frigates a third time made a distant and feeble effort to protect and cover the distressed frigate, but in vain; they did not dare to approach within the distance to do so, and by great exertions being unable to wear round on the same tack with the frigate that had now struck her colours, and substituted the English ensign in its place, I closed with, and took possession of her as before related.

During the remainder of the day we were lying too, fully employed in repairing the rigging, bending new canvas, and securing the prize in order to enable me, if possible, to go in pursuit of the three frigates, which were making off close by the wind, to the N. W.

Now my lord, it is with the greatest and most heartfelt pleasure to me, that this service has been effected with the probable loss of one poor man, who has had his thigh amputated, as likewise Mr. Patey, midshipman, slightly wounded in the shoulder; this youth did not quit his quarters in consequence of the wound, and was from first to last particularly active. But my lord, there have been several miraculous recoveries in the Lyon, owing to the great ability and humane attention of the Surgeon, Mr. Yongg; I therefore never despair of a man while there is life.

I have now the satisfaction of declaring to your lordship, that nothing could exceed the cool and collected bravery and determined resolution of every individual in the Lyon. I have the Dorothea in tow, as she has her mizen-mast and fore top-mast carried away, and sails and rigging cut to pieces, her rudder and main mast much damaged, as well as on the account of the unnecessary attendance of the Surgeon to the relief of the wounded men on board, the Surgeon of the Dorothea being an unexperienced man, and without the necessary instruments.

I can get my lord, but an imperfect account of the killed on board the Dorothea;