

NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE.

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PHILADELPHIA, May 17.

THE Indian Chief has been captured by a French ship of war, on her voyage from England, because she had a few slaves on board.

The George Barclay escaped the same fate, by something like a miracle. During her voyage from Philadelphia, to England, in December last, she was hailed in the British Channel by a French frigate. The Captain examined her manifest, and expressed his satisfaction that several articles, which he enumerated, were not on board; otherwise he should have been obliged to capture the vessel. Among the rest, he mentioned slaves in the vessel, but they had at first, by mistake, been forgot in making out the manifest, and were, after it had been signed, indorsed on the back of it.— This trifling mistake saved the ship, as the French man did not think of turning to the other side of the paper.

Extract of a letter from Yorkshire, in England, dated March the 3d, to a gentleman in this city.

“ It is remarkable here that an universal opinion seems to pervade all thinking persons, that great changes are coming on the earth, however they may differ in their political sentiments, or in the views of the particular events that may happen. The accounts we have from good information is, that a large body of Jew at Amsterdam, struck with the extraordinary appearances of the present day, and coincidence with the prophecies, respecting their nation, have lately appointed a select number of their principal men, to examine attentively, and with prayer, the evidences of Christianity. The issue, I hope, will be to their conviction, and the joy and benefit of those who call themselves Christians.”

Statement of the conduct of Captain Lyburn, of Bermuda, towards the schooner Debby, Captain Lovell.

On Tuesday the 29th of April last, being in lat. 28. 30. long. 67. 30. at two P. M. was bro't to by the sloop Ann. belonging to Bermuda, capt. Lyburn, and the schooner Friends, Capt. Hutchins of the same port. Captain Lyburn hailed and asked us where we came from, and where we were bound to; I told him from Ostend, bound to Charleston. He then ordered us to get our boat out and come on board of his vessel, I told him our boat was leaky, and that it would not swim: upon which he immediately fired a swivel full of small shot on board of us, which luckily did no damage; and swore, if we did not immediately hoist our boat he would fire a broadside into us; he then dropt the peak of his main-tail, and wore along side, his people taking the tomkins out of the guns, and getting the matches ready to fire. Seeing him so desperately inclined, I told him not to fire, and that we would get the boat out whether it would swim or not. The boat was hoisted out, and she filled half full of water before we could get along side of his vessel. When on board, he gave me a great deal of insulting language, and told me that all people belonging to Charleston should be treated with contempt, for their conduct towards the British vessels. After keeping me for some considerable time, and examining my register and pass, Captain Hutchins told me to get into the boat, and that they would conduct me on board, in order to examine if we had any concealed papers, or any cargo on board. When they came on board, they immediately broke open what letters they could find, and demanded very peremptorily what was done with the proceeds of our cargo to Ostend, as they supposed it was on board in specie, which they undoubtedly would have taken, had it been on board. After keeping my vessel lying to eight hours, consulting with them-

selves what was to be done, captain Lyburn told me he should carry us to Bermuda, according, he took eight of my people, and sent ten of his in their place, keeping our ship toward Bermuda until ten P. M. when he tho't proper to send my people back, and told me to make the best of my way for Charleston.

Philadelphia, 18th Germinal, 2d year of the French Republic.

Jh. Fauchet, minister plenipotentary, to Fonspertuis, consul, Charleston.

I have learned with equal pain and indignation, the treatment given by citizen Mangourit, to some English prisoners in retaliation for what the French have suffered in the English islands: immediately on the receipt of my letter, you will repair on board the vessel in which they are confined; you will break their irons, you will treat them as brethren, for they are men, and they are disarmed; you will make them publicly that reparation to which they are entitled; you will assure them that the conduct hitherto observed towards them, is repugnant both to the principles and views of the National Convention. It is not for freemen to imitate the conduct of despots; let us leave to those destroyers of the earth to boast their beneficence in manifestoes with which they inundate the globe, whilst they ravage it; while they massacre us for our good, and treat with the most atrocious barbarity the defenders of liberty and sacred laws of their country. Let us not punish these wretched passive agents of tyrants for the crimes of their pretended masters; let us rather commiserate them; they are slaves; their blood is lavished to annihilate the rights of man. Let themselves judge between those they serve and us. I am sensible that some will insinuate, that we treat them with lenity only because we fear them. Can so low an idea affect us? their kings fear us; do they therefore treat us with humanity? Besides, what is it to us what they may say? Should the applause of slaves and tyrants be a principle to influence the actions of republicans? The praises of either can only be the price of baseness or of guilt. Let us then be contented by them for shewing clemency in the bosom of victory: for regarding those whom the fate of arms has thrown into our power, only as unfortunate men, to whom we should shew every indulgence consistent with the safety and interest of the republic,

(Signed) JH. FAUCHET.

The absence of the corvette of the republic, the Lascaya, does not permit me to fulfil in every point the orders I have received. After causing these unfortunate prisoners to be immediately set at liberty, I conceived it a reparation justly due to them, to publish the letter which the minister plenipotentary wrote to me on their account.

FONSPERTUIS.

Extract of an official letter from Captain Smith commanding at Leogane, dated the 22d ult.

“ By the vessel which Captain Rowley despatches just now, I have the honour to report to you that such extraordinary circumstances have taken place at Port-au-Prince, that not a moment must be lost on the part of Great-Britain to profit of the events. Near two thousand white persons, mostly the principal people, women and children, are now in my possession.—A general massacre of the whites, it seems, was determined on, which induced them to get off in the best manner they could in two large ships, two brigs richly laden, an armed brig of 14 guns, and and 90 schooners, sloops, and open boats, nearly destitute of every thing, so sudden was the necessity of quitting that place. 145 men and officers of the Artois regiment made their way cut with their arms. The remainder were killed in their barracks. These men, I think, may be depended on, as they in particular

were the intended victims of the blacks; and the first cause of this extraordinary revolution was the fear entertained by the latter: that the regiment would assist the regiments in opposition to them. Sonthonax himself was surrounded in his route, but made his escape (by means I do not yet understand) to one of the forts, where he entered into capitulation with Montbrun. Some of the principal persons, who were most in his confidence, are now with me. I understand he wishes to surrender, if he can manage the business without danger to himself.

“ I have written to Colonel Whitlocke, pointing out the necessity of repairing here with all the force he can spare from the Mole.

“ I have persons employed in administering the oath of allegiance; and all, I trust, will go well, though we are dreadfully weak with regard to British force. Protestations to support me in any project I would adopt are great, but the situation is no doubt critical. Messrs. McKerras and Boog are busy in assisting me with their abilities; and for myself, I can only say that nothing can be wanting though I am almost exhausted with fatigue in paying attention to all the wants and applications of each individual. We have only five days provisions left; issuing to men, women, and children, about 5000 rations per diem. I have sent to the Mole and to Jeremie, but understand they have very little.”

BALTIMORE, May 21.

The Committee appointed to bring in a Bill, pursuant to a Report of the Committee of the whole House of Representatives of the United States, on the ways and means, brought in a Report on Friday last, which was twice read amended in Committee of the whole, reported to the House, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Bill providing for the Interest due on the State balances, as reported by the commissioners for settling the accounts between the United and individual States, was then read the third time in the House of Representatives, and passed. In the course of discussing the subject, sundry amendments were proposed; among others, it was moved to exonerate the Debtor States from any obligations to discharge the balances respectively reported by the Commissioners as due from them; this motion was, after some debate, negatived, 58 to 23: Another proposed amendment was, that the payment of the interest on said balances, out of the said funds cease and determine after year 1798; and that thereafter the balances due from certain States, as reported by the Commissioners, be appropriated to the payment of principal and interest of the balances due to said States: This amendment was lost, 90 to 27: On the question for engrossing, yeas 52, nays 37; a motion that it be read the third time, on the 1st of October, was negatived, 52 to 33. The bill provides that interest be allowed from the last day of December, 1789, and to be computed to the last day of December, 1794, at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum; the amount of such interest to be placed to the credit of the state to which the same shall be found due upon the books of Treasury of the United States, and shall bear an interest of 3 per cent. per annum from and after the said last day of December, 1794; the said interest to be paid quarterly, at the respective Loan-Offices; the first payment to be made on the last day of March 1795; to be paid out of the duties on imports and tonnage, not heretofore appropriated; and the faith of the United States is pledged to provide for any deficiency that may happen, by such additional and