

Mr John Sumo

NORTH-CAROLINAGAZETTE.

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LONDON, October 28. INVASION of ENGLAND.

AS the Members of Opposition have affected to question the existence of any intention, on the part of the French Government, to make a Descent in this Country, the testimony of a general Officer who served the Republic during three years, and who was acquainted with the plans and designs of the Directory, will suffice to expel all doubts on the subject. We have, therefore, extracted the following passage from the Memoirs of Gen. Danican, entitled, "*The Banditti Unmasked*;" a translation of which we are happy to find, is now in the press.

This Expedition, (a Descent upon England) which is not so chimerical as some persons affect to believe, has two principal objects:—First, to lay waste a rich and flourishing country, by the introduction of *Robespierrean Liberty*;—and secondly, in the event of a separate Peace with the Emperor, to get rid of that mass of *Belgians, Liegeois*, and other Troops, for which the Directory will have no further occasion, and which they must send to perish in some country or other.

"For a long time the immense riches of England have been holden out as a lure to the Republicans; the persons destined to command this famous descent, rely on meeting with powerful friends, particularly in Ireland; they publicly boast that they shall be received with open arms, and seconded by a numerous party. The plans for carrying this design into execution are all settled: and the moment is probably not far distant, when ambition will come to expire with rage on the coasts of an Isle, whose inhabitants are real patriots, and in which the general safety prescribes the necessity of restraining with vigour the partizans of anarchical liberty, oppressive equality, and wretched fraternity."

STOPPAGE of INTERCOURSE between FRANCE and ENGLAND.

The stoppage of all communication with France for the last fortnight, or more, has created no small degree of speculation, and various are the conjectures to which this circumstance has given rise. We have heard it attributed to internal insurrection, previous appearances in Paris, or the Departments warrant this conclusion. It has been attributed, and we think with greater justice, to the disasters of the French armies, a knowledge of which, through the channel of the French Journals, the Directory are probably unwilling should, at the present crisis, reach this country.

We can, however, assign a still deeper and more important cause for the stoppage of communications from France. It is well known for we stated it to the public at the time of its arrival, that the passport for an Agent, to be sent from this country to treat for peace, was clogged with the new and unreasonable stipulation, that such Agent or Envoy should be invested with full powers to treat definitively. This condition instituted, that our Envoy should be allowed no communication with this country during the progress of such negotiation.

That our ministers should have availed themselves of the passport, clogged with such conditions, proves more strongly than any word can do, their earnest desire to procure tranquillity to Europe. It never could be supposed, however, that the French could mean, that no communication was to be made by our envoy of his reception; and his idea, from appearances at Paris, of the probable result of his mission. We find, however, from the event, that the French construe their condition in its most rigid and literal sense, and will not permit of the smallest communication, till probably the return of our Ambassador, *re infecta*, or till the object of his embassy have been comple-

ted. Such a proceeding, however, is equally new and arbitrary, and as we conceive that no proposition for peace will be listened to that does not include all our allies, who have so nobly persevered in the prosecution of the contest; and as many points of discussion, must necessarily arise in the arrangements that are to lead to Peace, we conceive that no negotiation whatever can be carried on under such restrictions, if in such unfair and illiberal restriction the Executive Directory mean to persevere, we shall not be surpris'd therefore, to see Lord Malmesbury return without having been able to accomplish the grand object for which he was sent.

Notwithstanding the many paragraphs and reports to the contrary that have been circulated, we can assure the public, that to a late hour last night, no message from, nor any account of Lord Malmesbury had reached town since his embarkation in the Flag of Truce at Dover.

NEW MILITIA LAW.

In consequence of the dread of an invasion, Parliament has prepared, a Bill for establishing a corps of select Militia—from which a certain number are to be drafted, organized, disciplined and to take the field for a certain number of days—when new drafts are to be made, and take the place of the first, who return to their homes; and so on in succession. This Select Militia, which thus prepared for actual service, and will be kept ready to muster at a moments warning, is to consist of 65,681 men: An oath is to be administered to each man when drafted, purporting, that he is a protestant, that he acknowledges allegiance to his Majesty, and that he will serve for the defence of the realm during the existence of this Act. Fifteen pounds is the penalty for a neglect or refusal of service, when drafted, or to take the oath.

Mrs. King, the lady of the American Minister was introduced to the King, Queen and Princesses, on the 20th.

BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Friday, October 21.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

Mr. Windham stated, The whole force, for which provision was to be made, was 195,674 men: in this were reckoned not only the Home Army, known under the heads of Guards and Garrisons, in which were included the troops in Guernsey and Jersey, but also the troops serving abroad, under the name of Plantation Army, including all those in the West-Indies, Nova-Scotia, Gibraltar—in short, in all our colonies, excepting these in the East-Indies, which were on a different establishment. The expence of the whole of those, and all of the appendages, he stated to amount to the sum of 5,190,721l. This the committee would see was somewhat, tho' very little short of the last years estimate. The committee, however, were not to look upon this as a saving, because the other estimates, not presented, would contain some additional expences: but the whole, he was sure, taken together, would not exceed those of the last year. The Home Army, or Guards and Garrisons, he stated to amount to 60,765 men.

The remainder, or Plantation troops, to 64,277—On the former of these there was an excess over that of last year of 11,546—and on the other there was a diminution of 11,641. Deducting that excess from the diminution, there was some small reduction on the whole.

Having thus stated the various estimates under their respective heads, he moved a Resolution, that a number of men, not less than 60,765, be employed for the current year.

Gen. Tarleton said, there was one branch of expence, which he thought ought to be saved, Recruiting money. If we abandoned

our old mode of raising men by beat of drum, for the new French mode of requisition, there could be no occasion for lavishing money for the recruiting service.

The expence of the last year for the army alone amounted, he said, to the whole revenues of the country, as it stood on the year prior to the commencement of the war. How then, he wished to know, were the other expences to be defrayed particularly as we were going to raise an additional force of no less than one hundred and three thousand men? This was a serious consideration for the House of Commons, particularly for a new Parliament. There were many other things upon which he might enter, but he owed it to the situation of the country not to do so. As the return for these expences, he could not see where they were—Our conquests were rather borrowed from our allies, than taken from our enemies. He hoped they would not be an obstruction to Pacification. In a year there was a kind of Royal Promise, that there should be great operations in the West-Indies: but if we looked to the West-Indies, either in a general view of the whole, or particular Islands, there was cause to triumph; and it would remain so till that gentleman, Victor Hughes, was dislodged.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought in the bill for enabling his Majesty to require the provisional assistance of certain persons, in order to form a body of Cavalry, which was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to morrow.

EXPORTATION of CORN.

Mr. Ryder prefaced his motion with observing, that though some reduction had taken place in the prices of corn, the committee would doubtless see the propriety of continuing the regulations which were already in existence, with respect to that article, and of still holding our inducements to its importation, and restrictions on its exportation. The act which was at present in force on the subject went to three points: to the prevention of the exportation of corn, to the importation of other provisions. The price of corn, it was true, was still such as to warrant a supposition that exportation would be prevented by it; but as in a particular district the fluctuation of the market might considerably reduce that price, he thought it for the general interest of the country that the laws now in force concerning corn should be continued, lest this local reduction of its value should be the occasion of its exportation. All other provisions were at a price which would render the other part of the act still of use. He should therefore move a resolution for continuing the act of last session, with the amendment of two clauses which, when the farmer had been able more justly to estimate the nett produce of the year after seed time, might be found necessary. The first was, that a permission should be inserted in the bill, for repealing it during this session, if it should be found inconvenient; the other a similar permission to his majesty in council to suspend or repeal any part of it during the vacation of Parliament.

The committee agreed to this resolution, which was reported to the house, and leave obtained to bring in a bill conformable to it.

SILK.

Mr. RYDER moved to consider the bill for permitting the importation of unmanufactured silk in neutral bottoms, which was agreed to, and a committee of the whole House, ordered for the purpose to-morrow.

H A G U E, Oct. 11.

Last Saturday another affray happened here between the French garrison and the Dutch half brigade, supported by the regiment of Waldeck, in consequence of which