

Foreign News.

FROM A LONDON PAPER.

War in India.

Notes of the transactions in the Mahratta Empire.

THE Predatory States composing the Mahratta power, have never been united in any regular form of confederation, or by any system of constitutional laws, that can be compared to any constitution in Europe. A vague and indefinite sentiment of common interest, however, has established a certain degree of union amongst them, from a period of their first success, throughout every stage of the decline of the Mogul empire. The same indefinite, but acknowledged confederacy has subsisted between the Mahrattas since the entire destruction of the Mogul empire, and, together with other causes has enabled several of these adventurers to erect States of considerable military resource and political power. The power of the Peishwa has for many years been acknowledged by the Mahrattas, including the Rajah of Berar, and the Peishwa is universally acknowledged in India, as the constitutional representative of the Mahratta empire. Scindia has been the chieftain who has opposed the constituted authority of the Peishwa; and with his confederates, brought on the war which has proved so disastrous to him and his allies. In reviewing the rapid and brilliant events of the campaign against the confederate Mahratta chieftains and their French forces, every loyal subject of the British empire, must remark with the most zealous emotions of just pride and national triumph, that in the course of an extensive and complicated system of military operations, the glorious success of the British arms has been uniform in every part of India. The able and gallant officers and troops of his Majesty's service, and of the several establishments of the three presidencies, have been actuated by equal sentiments of public spirit and honour, and have co-operated with equal ardour and success in an united effort to accomplish the object of the alliance.

From the commencement, to the first of November, the British army has conquered all the possessions of Scindia, in Guzerat, the city of Boorhanpoor in Candish, the province of Cuttack, in Orissa, the Mahratta dominions between the Jumna and the Ganges, the city of Delhi, and the right bank of the Jumna; the city of Agra, and the adjoining territory; has reduced by storm, the fortified town of Ahmednagar, the forts of Aly Ghur, Baroach, and Cuttack; and by capitulation after having opened the batteries, the forts of Ahmednagar, of Powanghur, and Champoner; the fort of Oseeghur, denominated the key of the Dekan; and the fort of Agra denominated the key of Hindostan, and has defeated the enemy in three general engagements:—At Delhi, on the 11th of September, at Allye on the 23d September, and at Laswaree on the 1st of November; having taken according to the official returns, on the field of battle in these engagements, and in the walls of Agra, 260 pieces of ordnance, 5000 stand of arms, 215 tumbrils, and 51 stand of colours, with a large quantity of store baggage, camp equipage and ammunition.

The official returns of the artillery, stores, &c. taken from the enemy have not been received from Ahmednagar, Baroach, the fort of Delhi, Ferozeabad, Champoner, Powanghur, Jalnahpoo, Cuttack, Boorhanpoor, and Oseeghur; but the amount of the returns actually received, of ordnance taken in the several forts, exclusive of that taken on the field of battle, is four hundred pieces of ordnance, exclusive of tumbrils, stores, &c. making the total number of ordnance, of which returns have been received, captured from the 8th of August to the 1st of November, seven hundred and thirteen. The progress and result of these successful operations, have restored his highness the Peishwa to his sovereign authority at Poona, and cemented our alliance with that Prince; have secured the succession of the legitimate heir of the sovereign Prince of the Dekan to the government of his deceased father, the late Nizam; have protected the British interests at Hyderabad from injury; have confirmed the stability of the treaties, by which the French were expelled from the Dekan in 1798; and delivered the aged, venerable and unfortu-

nate Emperor of Hindostan from misery and ignominy, and from indigence and bondage, from the hands of the French. The achievements of General Lake and Major-General Wellesley, combined with the admirable and exemplary conduct of the officers and troops during this campaign, more particularly in the signal and splendid victories, of Delhi, of Allye, and of Laswaree, must inspire a general sentiment of just confidence in the vigour of our military resources, and in the stability of our dominion and power. Our uniform success in frustrating every advantage of superior numbers, of powerful artillery, and even of obstinate resistance, opposed by the enemy, constitutes a satisfactory proof of the established superiority of British discipline, skill, and valor;—and demonstrates that the glorious progress of our arms is not the accidental result of a temporary or transient advantage, but the natural and certain effect of a permanent cause. A confident expectation may be entertained, that under the pressure of accumulated defeat, with aggravated loss of resources, power, military strength and dominion, in every quarter of India, the confederate Mahratta chiefs Doulat Rao Scindia and the Rajah of Burar, must speedily be compelled to accede to such terms of pacification as shall be calculated to deprive them of the means of disturbing our possessions, and of impairing the efficiency and stability of our alliances.

Under such a general pacification it is reasonable to expect that, with a considerable augmentation of the lustre and glory of the British arms in India, will be combined the accomplishment of a comprehensive system of alliance and political connection in Hindostan, and the Dekan, calculated to promote the general tranquility of India, to secure on the most permanent foundations the interest and dominion of the British nation, against the hostile intents of any India or European power, and to destroy the last remnant of French influence in India.

Estimated strength of Scindia's regular infantry, under the general command of M. Perron, to the commencement of the month of June, taken from the commander in chief's official dispatches, from the reports of Mr. Stuart, an officer in Scindia's service, (who quitted the 12th Sept. 1803) and from other authentic sources of information.

	Bat.	Men.	Guns.
1. Brigade Monsieur Louis Borquieu, at Delhi,	8	7008	50
2. Do. Mons. Hensing, near Delhi, at Secundria,	7	5600	50
3. Do. Mons. Pohlman, with Scindiah, in Dekan,	8	6000	80
4. Do. Mons. Dudernague, or Duderneg, with Scindiah, in the Dekan,	7	5000	70
5. Brigade at Coel, Aly Ghur, Delhi and Agra	7	400	—
Corps under Monsieur Dupont, with Scindiah	5	2000	20
Maj. Brownrigg's Corps with Scindiah,	5	2250	30
Begum Sumroo's Corps, with Scindiah,	4	2400	20
Late Filoge's Brigade, commanded by Jean Baptiste, in Ouguein and the vicinity,	6	3000	60
Ambagee Anglia's Brigade, with Scindiah, in the Dekan, stated to be	16	7400	84
Total	72	43560	464

The whole of the forces stated in this estimate, is exclusive of the troops employed in garrisons of irregular infantry, mervalties, &c. &c. the number of which is considerable. The annual revenue of the countries subject to Mons. Perron, derived from the territorial possessions, as well as from other resources, are stated to have amounted to one crore and 35 lacks of rupees, or about 1,700,000l. sterling. Ambagee Anglia one of Scindiah's principal officers, Maj. Brownrigg, was put into confinement by his troops, in order to prevent his joining Gen. Lake.

The following is a correct list from the official returns, of the number of troops engaged in the late war in India, under the British government.

In Hindostan under the immediate and personal command of General Lake, 3 regiments of European, and 5 of Native Cavalry, 200 European Artillery, 1 regiment of Europeans, and 11 Battalions of Native Infantry, amounting in the whole to	Men.
At Allahabad	10,500
Under General Wellesley, and	5,500

the Subsidiary Force under Col. Stevenson,	16,828
At Hyderabad,	1,917
At Poonah,	1,598
At Moodgul,	4,032
In the field at Guzerat,	4,280
Garrison at ditto, and at Surat,	3,071
For the invasion of Cuttack	5,216
Total	54,918

These were the whole forces employed in the operations of the war.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, April 25.
DEFENCE OF THE NATION.

Mr. Fox made his promised motion on this important business. In a very long speech he stated the insufficiency, in his opinion of our present means of defence against the enemy. He recommended the increase of the regular army, and the establishment of an armed peasantry, artificers, and the general population of the country, for, if the enemy were determined to invade us, he would continue the preparations year after year. He disapproved the conduct of Ministers, and concluded by moving "that it be referred to a committee of the whole House to revise the several bills for defence of the country, and to consider of such further measures as may be necessary to make that defence more complete and permanent."

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, the honorable Gentleman had urged one of the most extraordinary motions, that within his parliamentary experience has ever been submitted to the House. The object of it was to appoint a committee, to revise the acts that have been passed for the defence of the country, and to consider and provide means for the protection of it in future. He defended at great length the conduct of Ministers, and concluded by observing, that a great state necessity might justify the appointment of such a committee; but he left it to the wisdom of the house to determine, if any proofs of such necessity have been advanced in support of the present dangerous and extraordinary measure.—It is upon these grounds, he said, I oppose the motion of the Hon. Gentleman, and I hope a majority of this House will agree with me in opinion, that no sound reasons have been urged to recommend it; that no necessity has been proved to justify it; and that it has been brought forward from motives different from what are professed, it is unworthy to be entertained or adopted by the House.

Mr. PITT, in a very brilliant speech, of great length, disapproved of the conduct of Ministers in the defence of the country, and particularly with regard to drilling the volunteer corps, which he said had by no means been sufficient to render them fit for actual military service.—He did not mean to say that 400,000 volunteers, a strong military force, and a well disciplined militia, was not adequate to the safety of the country; but what number of that force, and in what condition, he asked, could they be assembled near any of the points likely to be attacked?—At the close of his speech he recommended a system of fortification, and said I am convinced, that in no one instance in no one branch of defence is the country in that state of security with which the House ought to be satisfied.—He concluded by giving his warmest support to Mr. Fox's motion.

Mr. YORKE defended the conduct of Ministers in strong terms. He was willing to sustain his portion of the censure if any would apply; but he contended that according to his own views the best attention had been paid to the security of the nation.

Mr. G. VANSITTART said, he considered the present motion to be an attempt to force the Ministers out of their places, and was similar to that made in the year 1784, which was reprobated by every person in the country.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL, in a very animated speech, said that if Buonaparte felt any disposition to insult and attack this country, he knew of nothing so well calculated to induce him to believe he may do it with impunity, as the language held on that occasion by the Right Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Fox.) He recapitulated several of the statements of the public force in vindication of the vigilance and activity of Ministers, which he argued were never surpassed by any Ministers of this country, at any period of our history.—For the peace which was concluded, he said every British heart acknowledged gra-

titude to his Majesty's present ministers and to them is entirely owing the unanimity of the whole empire in support of the present war; an unanimity worth all the soldiers that were disbanded at the conclusion of the peace. But the honorable gentleman allows no excuse to his Majesty's ministers, for recommending an unavoidable war, but charges them with involving the country in danger. He concluded by observing that it would become the wisdom of the House to pause before they adopted the motion.

Mr. WINDHAM argued in favour of the motion; and Mr. Tierney in reply said he would resist his (Mr. W's) return to power, as a thing that would spread dismay through the country.

On a division of the House, there appeared, for Mr. Fox's motion 204; against it 256—majority 52.

The House adjourned at 4 o'clock on Tuesday morning.

PROCLAMATION.

By his Excellency Major-General Sir CHARLES GREEN, commanding his Majesty's land forces, and Governor of the colony of Surinam, &c. &c.

WHEREAS it is expedient that regulations should be established respecting the trade to and from this colony to neutral vessels until his Majesty's pleasure should be known, I have thought fit by virtue of the power and authority in me vested, to publish this my proclamation hereby declaring,

That it shall and may be lawful for the space of four months from and after the publication hereof, to import into this colony in American or neutral bottoms belonging to the subjects of any power in amity with his Majesty, Tobacco, Pitch, Tar, Turpentine, Hemp, Flax, Masts, Yards, Bowsprits, Staves, Heading, Boards, Timber, Shingles and lumber of any sort, Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs, Poultry, and live stock of any sort, Bread, Biscuit, Flour, Corn, Peas, Beans, Potatoes, Wheat, Rice, Oats, Barley, and grain of any sort, salted Beef, Pork, Butter, Pickled and dry salt Fish from the American dominions of such neutral powers aforesaid, upon payment of a duty of 4 per cent. as well upon the commodities herein before specified, as upon such as shall hereafter be found necessary to be permitted upon emergency or otherwise.

And whereas, it is also expedient to allow such American and other neutral vessels as are permitted to trade under this proclamation to export certain articles the produce of the colony in return, but which shall not exceed in value the amount of the cargoes so imported. I do therefore declare that it shall and may be lawful, to permit the exportation of Sugar, Rum, and Molasses in such American and other neutral vessels as aforesaid, upon payment of a duty of 8 per cent. upon such commodities as shall be so exported.

And I do hereby direct that the duties herein imposed upon imports and exports shall be levied and collected according to the regulations existing on that head previous to the late surrender of the colony to his Majesty's arms.

Done at Paramaribo in the colony of Surinam, this 29th day of May, 1804, and in the 44th year of his Majesty's reign.

CHARLES GREEN, Gov.
By his Excellency's command,
R. ROSS, Sec'y.
GOD SAVE THE KING.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Tripoli to his friend in Paris, announcing the destruction of the United States frigate Philadelphia.

"On the 16th inst. (Feb. 7) we descried from the town, (Tripoli) two vessels, but both so disguised as to prevent our discovering of what nation they were. The smallest, having the appearance of a merchant vessel, boldly entered the port at half past 9 in the evening, and having taken some disguised Turks on board, they requested, in the language of the country, of those in the Philadelphia frigate, to suffer them to anchor alongside, which was immediately granted, and even assistance afforded in bringing the vessel to her moorings. No sooner was this effected, than an hundred well armed Americans leaped on board, cutting down every one who opposed them, when the more prudent saved themselves by leaping into the sea, and swimming to the shore. Almost instantaneously the frigate was in a light blaze, and the small vessel again cleared out of the port. The enterprize was