

Wilmington Centinel,

AND GENERAL ADVERTISER.

W E D N E S D A S E P T E M B E R 3, 1788.

Foreign Intelligence.

L O N D O N, May 13.

W HATEVER appearances there may be of a general war, from the active exertions making in Spain, yet it may be depended on, that if the administration conceived any apprehensions of a disturbance in the tranquility of its own affairs, reductions would hardly have been made of the military both in England and Ireland. If Spain opposes the Russian fleet it must be from that policy which may be deemed both prudent and wise, to prevent a very ambitious maritime power from forming settlements in the Mediterranean, and becoming, in the course of time, a more troublesome vintor in that sea, than any of the neighbouring Mahometans.

M A Y 17.

Last night arrived here from France, his Royal Highness the Duke of Orleans.

M A Y 17.

The Spanish Squadron which lately put to sea from Cadiz, under the command of Don Emanuel de Cordova, nephew to the commander in chief of that name, and which was, by the last accounts, cruising off or near Cape St. Vincent, consisted of the following ships of the line and frigates:—H. Magnificente, la Castillane, el Tierno, of 70 guns each, la Dragon, la Sirena, el Poseida, of 60 guns each—Frigates, la Venus of 38, la Mercu- ra, 36, la San Miguel, 30, la Santa Clara, 26, and three gallees.

The ships of the line which the Spaniards have ready at Cadiz, and are said to be arming at this time, are, one of 96, one of 80, eight of 70, and four of 60 guns—several of these are new since the last war.

A gentleman who arrived here a few days ago from Orleans, assures us, that the military were in motion all over France, and a general consternation agitated the people. They had not, however, the slightest idea of their monarch's intention to annihilate the parliament, but supposed that a foreign war was in agitation.

A butcher in the borough, who lately purchased a poney brought from America, only twelve hands and a half high, has engaged, for 100 guineas, to ride the same 100 miles in twelve hours; which but several gentlemen have accepted of, and he is to start within a month, play or pay.

The Russian squadron intended for the Mediterranean, under the command of Admiral Greig, will consist of 26 ships of the line, viz. three of 100 guns, six of 90, four of 80, eleven of 74, and thirteen frigates, from 36 to 40 guns.

The above fleet will be manned by 15,000 sailors, including officers, and 28,000 troops are embarked on board, as well infantry as cavalry, and divided into twenty battalions.

M A Y 30.

The House of Commons on Wednesday agreed to the report of the Committee on duties on skins, by which it was resolved:

That the duties now payable upon the importation of buck or deer and elk skins do cease.

That a custom duty of 2d. be charged upon every buck or skin imported.

That a custom duty of 2d. be charged upon every Indian buck or deer skin half dressed imported.

That a custom duty of 4d. be charged upon every elk skin imported.

That an excise duty of 1s. be charged upon every pound weight of buck or deer skin dressed in oil in this kingdom.

That a drawback of the whole of the excise duty be allowed on exportation.

The bankruptcies, in consequence of the late calamities, are now spreading *collaterally*, as may be seen by the Gazette of Tuesday night last; but we are happy to hear, that the *great fire* is pretty well got under, in consequence of two or three principal houses, which were expected to have gone, being now thoroughly supported.

One of the above houses, we hear, was under acceptances to the amount of five hundred and fourteen thousand pounds:—notwithstanding which, there is every probability of the whole being discharged in time, with a surplus of eighty-thousand pounds in favour of the partners.

Very much to the honour of the Scotch, they have supported each other's credit in the late commercial calamities, so as to prevent almost any bankruptcy of consequence amongst them.—This some may call "National." But if the English and Irish supported each other with the same attachment, it would be more for the benefit of public credit, as well as the cause of humanity.

Extract of a letter from Gibraltar, May 9.

The shutting up the Moorish ports begins now to operate very sensibly upon us, fresh provisions of every kind being no longer to be had from Barbary. A fowl is now a stranger almost to the first tables. The Barbarian King perseveres; and it is difficult to say whether immediate hostilities or lenient measures would best operate to bring him to a proper sense. At any rate, the garrison are in bad plight until they are supplied from home, or the dispute made up.

Extract of a letter from Falmouth, May 22.

"Orders are come down here for two houses of rendezvous to be opened for the immediate entering of our Majesty's service, to span the ships now fitting out at Portsmouth."

Thursday died (as was supposed) Mrs. Margaret Carpenter, journeywoman to Mrs. Smith, livery lace-maker, in Little Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn-fields, and on Friday she was properly laid out in order to be interred yesterday, when in the night, to the astonishment and terror of the whole family, she came down stairs stark naked, having only been in a trance. As soon as this surprize was over, they put her into a warm bed, and gave her comfortable things for her refreshment. She said she was bitter cold; but her situation so shocked her, that it is almost impossible for her to recover.

D U B L I N, May 31.

It has been generally reported, that his Gallic Majesty was fired at, in returning from a ride, about nine in the evening of Saturday the 18th inst. The account arrived in a letter to a gentleman in this city, and states the affair as follows: The King, who is become very corpulent and plethoric within these last three years, was advised by Mr. de Senac, his first physician, to drink lime water and acid cooling liquors, and to be on horseback, if possible, every day. Some business preventing him from riding out in the forenoon of Saturday, which being over between four and five, he took a cold snak, mounted and rode towards the town of St. Germain, accompanied by two noblemen and six servants. About half way on his return to Versailles, the report of a gun was heard, as if proceeding from a decayed monastery, some walls of which are yet standing, not far from the high road. One of the servants, who was about 5 or 6 yards behind, said, that a ball had carried away a part of his hat. The King without any mark of fear, or even surprize, commanded the reins to be searched, whilst four men placed themselves at different parts to prevent an escape. But the bird, or rather the fowler, could no where be seen. The evening was remarkably clear, and the walls which had been long unroofed, were exposed, with all their niches and crannies, to a distant view. Whether the piece was discharged at an owl, or other night bird inhabiting those ruins, or levelled intentionally at the King, cannot be ascertained; but the writer avers, that the fact is literally and truly as above.

PHILADELPHIA, August 6.

Extract from the Journal of Congress,
July 25, 1788.

Resolved, That the Secretary at War direct the detachment of troops marching to the Westward, to rendezvous at Easton, in Pennsylvania, and from thence march into the county of Luzerne, for quelling the disturbances in that county; providing the Executive Council of Pennsylvania shall find the assistance of those troops necessary; provided also, that the said troops shall not be delayed in their march to the Ohio more than two weeks.

PETERSBURG, August 7.

BEWARE of a HYPOCRITE!

In Committee, convened in Joseph Harding's Compting-room, on Monday the 5th of August, 1788.

Members present,

JOHN EASTER, Deacon,
Richard Garettsen, Nathaniel Lee,
Stith Parham, James Faucett,
Gressit Davis, Jones A. Dean.
Joseph Harding,

ROBERT DOUGLASS, a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was charged by the information of a person of this town, that Mr. Robert Paul, of Halifax county, that he, the said Douglass, was a married man, when he, the said Paul, left Scotland,

about three years ago—and that he, the said Paul, was well acquainted with the family and persons of both the said Robert Douglass, and his wife: And that on the said Paul's setting off for America, she delivered him a letter for the said Douglass, at New-York, supposing him to have been there—and that she was repeatedly at the said Paul's house, in a forlorn and disconsolate situation, with a little daughter. And the said Robert Douglass was further charged with making overtures of marriage to Miss R. B. daughter of Mr. F. B. of Chesterfield county, in violation of his marriage covenant, and in breach of all laws, human and divine.

The said Douglass being called on to answer before God and this Committee, whether or not the first of these charges, of his being married, is true or false—Upon which he gave in the following answer, in writing:—

" Petersburg, August 4, 1788.

" My Dear Brethren,

" IT grieves me unto the very heart to relate unto you, that the charges laid against me are just. And oh! I have fallen into the most heinous sin, in offering to marry again: But the temptations of the enemy, and my own negligence in not living up to my duty, have caused me to fall. And oh! what agony of soul I feel, on the account of sin. I am ashamed even to approach my Godly Brethren: But oh! to think of the reproach I shall bring upon the glorious cause that I have fallen from. God knows my heart—I want to feel that glow of love I once felt. I am determined, through grace, to look unto the Rock, Jesus Christ, from whom I have so deeply revolted. You will, I hope, deal with me according to the rule of God's word and your consciences. I can't say any thing more, I am so troubled; but hope to merit an interest in your prayers daily.

" I am your unworthy brother,

" ROBERT DOUGLASS."

THE question being separately put, the Committee are unanimous in opinion, that Robert Douglass cannot be retained in our Church.

Signed in behalf of the Committee,

JOHN EASTER.