

THE NORTH-CAROLINA MERCUR AND SALISBURY ADVERTISER.

SALISBURY:—PRINTED & PUBLISHED BY FRANCIS COUPEE.

Nov. 159

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1801.

Vol. 1

NEW-YORK, May 20.

Yesterday arrived in 26 days from London, the ship Suffolk, bringing papers to the 18th of April inclusive.

The intelligence which they contain is highly interesting. New and surprizing changes again have taken place, which will probably alter the whole face of Europe.

In the Baltic the English fleet under Lord Nelson have achieved another signal victory. They entered the Cattégat, and passed by the fortress of Cronenburg before the eyes of his Danish Majesty, and under the very battery of Copenhagen; CAPTURED OR SUNK EIGHTEEN SHIPS but of TWENTY-THREE that were stationed to oppose them. The whole Navy of Denmark, with the Capital of the Empire, thus falls into the hands of the British.

Prince Charles of Hesse Cassel, General of the Danish forces, previously to this event had seized on Hamburg with 12,000 troops, and garrisoned that city.

In Russia, a change has taken place favorable to the British. The Emperor Paul is dead—some say by a fit of the apoplexy—others with greater probability poison. The new Emperor Alexander, has already discovered a disposition to pursue a different policy, and the Russian Ambassador in England, who had retired from London, is about to return to resume his functions. This augurs a change in the Cabinet of Petersburg, and with the Danish disasters, will probably be fatal to the Northern Confederacy.

A report was prevalent in London on the 18th of April, that Sir R. Abercrombie, had defeated the French in Egypt; and that Sir John B. Warren, had taken 16 Sail of French Transports.

LONDON, April 15.

The report of the death of the Emperor of Russia, which we announced in our paper of yesterday, proves to be, well founded; but so many falsehood have been circulating respecting the fate of his majesty, we at first received it with suspicion. It appears that on the 23d ult. his Imperial Majesty went to rest as usual, and next morning was found lifeless in his bed, having died as it is given out, in an apoplectic fit; but, as it is suspected, by violent means, some say poison. He had disgusted or affronted all his nobles and officers taking them into favour one day, and disgracing them the next. His tyranny had left him no friends; he was universally hated; every individual was afraid of becoming the victim of his caprice. The history and practice of the Russian Court pointed out his fate; he himself dreaded it, and seldom slept twice in the same room. The present event was foreseen, and predicted by persons in this country the best informed on Russian affairs.

His eldest son, Alexander, was immediately proclaimed emperor; and he commenced his reign by issuing an ukase or proclamation, which was read on Charge, announcing, "That it had pleased God to take his father, who had died in an apoplectic fit, the government had devolved on him; that he would rule with justice, and follow the maxims of his illustrious grandmother; by which means he hoped to conduct his people to happiness and glory."

Among other steps of the new Emperor, Alexander, dispatched a messenger to Count

Woronzaw, in this country, reappointing him Ambassador from Russia. The messenger came over from Hamburg in the Dolphin packet, captain Hearne, (without a mail) and arrived in London about eight o'clock on Monday night. His dispatches were delivered to the Chaplin of the Russian Legation, in Harley street, & an express was sent off to Count Woronzow, at Southampton. The messenger brought a letter from M. Vander Pahler, the Russian Secretary of state, to Lord Hawkesbury, our Minister for Foreign Affairs, acquainting him with the event, and assuring him it was the wish of the Emperor to re-establish the relations of amity between Russia and England. A letter was also brought, written by the Emperor Alexander himself to our King, full of the most conciliatory expressions. Mr. Sharpe, our late Consul in Russia, but now in London, is said to have received passports, and to have been intreated to return immediately. The British seamen have been set at liberty by the new Emperor, and the sequestration taken off British property including ships. In consequence of this intelligence, merchants, who a week ago would have sold their property in Russia for 10 per cent. yesterday refused 50; the greatest joy prevailed throughout the mercantile world. No happier event could have occurred for it than the death of Paul. The funds rose nearly two per cent, and the speedy dissolution of the Northern Confederacy was regarded as certain.

From the London Gazette Extraordinary.

Wednesday, April 15.

Admiralty office, April 15.

Capt. Otway, of his Majesty's ship London, arrived in town this morning, with dispatches from admiral Sir Hyde Parker, commander in chief of a Squadron of his Majesty's ships employed on a particular service, to Evan Nepean, Esq. dated on board the London, in Copenhagen Roads, on the 6th inst. of which the following are copies.

SIR,—You will be pleased to acquaint the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that since my letter of the 23d of March, no opportunity of wind offered for going up the Sound till the 25th, when the wind shifted in a most violent squall from the S. W. to the N. W. and North, and blew with such violence, and with so great a sea, as to render it impossible for any ship to have weighed her anchor.—The wind and sea were so violent, as to oblige many ships to let go a second anchor to prevent them from dragging, notwithstanding they were riding with two cables an end, and by the morning the wind veered again to the southward of the west.

On the 30th of last month, the wind having come to the northward, we passed into the Sound with the fleet, but not before I had assured myself of the hostile intention of the Danes to oppose our passage, as the papers marked, N^o. 1, 2, 3, and 4, will prove; after the intercourse, there could be no doubt remaining of their determination to resist.

After anchoring about five or six miles from the island of Huin, I reconnoitred, with vice Admiral Nelson and rear Admiral Graves, the formidable line of ships, radeaus, pontoon, galleys, fire ships, and gun-boats, flanked and supported by extensive batteries on the islands called the Crowns; the largest of which was mounted with from fifty to seventy pieces of cannon; these were again commanded by two ships

of 74 guns, and a large frigate in the interior road of Copenhagen, and two sixty-four gun ships, (without masts) were moored on the flat, on the starboard side of the entrance into the arsenal.

The day after, the wind being southerly, we again examined their position, and came to the resolution of attacking them from southward.

Vice admiral Lord Nelson having offered his services for conducting the attack, had, some days before we entered the Sound, shifted his flag to the Elephant, and after having examined and buoyed the outer channel of the middle ground, his lordship proceeded with twelve ships of the line named in the margin*, all the frigates, bombas, fire ships, and all the small vessels, and that evening anchored off Draco Point to make his dispositions for the attack, and wait for the wind to the southward.

It was agreed between us, that the remaining ships with me should weigh at the same moment his lordship did, and menace the Crown batteries, and the four ships of the line that lay at the entrance of the arsenal; as also to cover our disabled ships as they came out of action.

I have now the honour to enclose a copy of vice admiral Lord Nelson's report to me of the action of the 2d inst. His lordship has stated so fully the whole of his proceedings on that day, as only to leave me opportunity to testify my entire acquiescence and testimony of the bravery and intrepidity with which the action was supported throughout the line.

Was it possible for me to add any thing to the well known renown of Lord Nelson, it would be by asserting, that his exertions, great as they have heretofore been, never were carried to a higher pitch of zeal in his country's service.

I have only to lament that the sort of attack, confined within an intricate and narrow passage, excluded the ships particularly under my command, from the opportunity of exhibiting their valour; but I can, with truth, assert, that the same spirit and zeal animated the whole of the fleet; and I trust that the contest in which we are engaged, will, on some future day, afford them an occasion of shewing that the whole were inspired with the same spirit, had the field been sufficiently extensive to have bro't it into action.

It is with the deepest concern I mention the loss of captains Misse and Riou, two very brave and gallant officers, and whose loss, as I am well informed, will be sensibly felt by the families they have left behind them; the former a wife and children, the latter an aged mother.

From the known gallantry of Sir Thomas Thompson on former occasions, the naval service will have to regret the loss of the future exertions of that brave officer, whose leg was shot off.

For all other particulars, I beg leave to refer their lordships to capt. Otway, who was with Lord Nelson in the latter part of the action, and able to answer questions that may be thought necessary to put to them. A return of the killed and wounded you will receive herewith.

I have the honour to be, &c.

H. PARKER.

* Elephant, Defiance, Monarch, Bellona, Edgar, Russel, Ganges, Glatton, Isis, Agamemnon, Polyphemus, Ardent.