

them announce, that the Pacha of Damascus has totally defeated the Arabs allied with Buonaparte, who wished to plunder Damascus. The other two left Joan d'Acre May 10th, and confirm the defeat of the French: and that the cannon taken from them have been brought into that fortress, and Ghezar Pacha had advanced thirteen leagues from Acre.

LONDON June 23.

Admiralty-Office, June 22, 1799.

Extract of a letter from Capt. Sir W. S. Smith, to Mr. Nepean, dated Tigre, of Tripoli in Syria, the 2d of April, 1799.

I beg leave to transmit for the information of my lords commissioners of the admiralty, a copy of my report to the right hon. Earl St. Vincent, of late events in this quarter.

Tigre, off St. John d Acre, the 23d March, '99.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to inform you that, in consequence of the intelligence from the General Pacha, governor of the province of general Buonaparte's army into that province, and his approach to its capital, Acre, I hastened with a portion of the naval force under my orders to its relief, and had the satisfaction to arrive there two days before the enemy made his appearance. Much was done in this interval under the direction of Capt. Miller, of the Thefeus, and Col. Pheypeaux, towards putting the place in a better state of defence, to resist the attack of an European army; and the presence of a British naval force appeared to encourage and decide the Pacha and his troops to make a vigorous resistance.

The enemy's advanced guard was discovered at the foot of Mount Carmel in the night of the 17th, by the Tigre's guard boats; these troops not expecting to find a naval force of any description in Syria, took up their ground close to the water side, and were consequently exposed to the fire of grape shot from the boats, which put them to the rout the instant it opened upon them, and obliged them to retire precipitately up the side of the Mount. The main-body of the army finding the road between the sea and Mount Carmel thus exposed, came in by that of the Nazareth, and invested the town of Acre to the east, but not without being much harassed by the Samaritan Arabs, who are even more inimical to the French than Egyptians, and better armed.

As the enemy returned our fire by muskets only, it was evident that they had not brought cannon with them, which were therefore to be expected by sea and measures were taken accordingly for intercepting them; the Thefeus was already detached off Jaffa (Joppa.)

The enemy's flotilla which came in from sea, fell in with and captured the Torride, and was coming round Mount Carmel, when it was discovered from the Tigre, consisting of a corvette and nine sail of gun-vessels; on seeing us they hauled off.

The alacrity of the ship's company in making sail after them was highly praiseworthy; our guns soon reached them, and seven, as per enclosed list, struck;—the corvette, containing Buonaparte's private property, and two small vessels escaped, since it became an object to secure the prizes without chasing further; their cargoes, consisting of the battering train of artillery, ammunition, platforms, &c. destined for the siege of Acre, being much wanted for its defence. The prizes were accordingly anchored off the town, manned from the ships, and immediately employed in harassing the enemy's posts, impeding its approaches, and covering the ship's boats sent farther in shore to cut off his supplies of provisions conveyed coastwise.

They have been constantly occupied in these services for these five days and nights past; and such has been the zeal of their crews, that they requested not to be relieved, after many hours excessive labor at their guns and oars.

I am sorry to say that we have met with some loss, as per enclosed list, which however, is balanced by greater on the part of the enemy. By the encouragement given to the Turkish troops from our example, and by the time that is gained for the arrival of a sufficient force to render Buonaparte's whole project abortive. I have had reason to be perfectly satisfied with the gallantry and perseverance of lieuts. Bushby, Inglesfield, Knight, Stokes, and lieut. Burton, and men under their orders.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) W. SIDNEY SMITH.

* This list exhibits a loss of four midshipmen and eight seamen, killed; and one midshipman and twenty-six seamen wounded.

Total loss of the French—seven gun boats, thirty-four guns, and two hundred and thirty-eight men.

These gun-boats were loaded, besides their own complement, with battering cannon, ammunition and every kind of siege equipage, for Buonaparte's army before Acre.

THE debts of every description owing to JAMES C. GORHAM, by the inhabitants of Wake county, have lately been placed in my hands for collection—I am intrusted to request all persons indebted to come forward and make settlement by payment or giving their bonds, otherwise to commence suits against those delinquent without discrimination.

Raleigh, July 23. HENRY SEAWELL.

From the New-York Gazette.

Mr. LANG,

As the real cause of the resignation of that truly valuable and gallant officer, Capt. TRUXTON, is generally misunderstood. I send you the annexed copy of a letter from that gentleman, enclosing a candid statement of his case from himself.

ONE OF YOUR READERS.

New-York, Aug. 27th, 1799.

COPY of a letter from Capt. Truxton to a gentleman in New-York, enclosing one from him, to a gentleman in Norfolk.

Perth-Amboy, 24th August, 1799.

My Dear Sir!

I WAS so busily employed on board the Constellation, arranging matters for sea, when your letter came to hand, that I could not then find time to answer; and since I landed here, last from Sandy Hook, have had but few moments in which I have found myself disengaged in matters that materially concern me.

On the subject of my resignation, as it was unexpected, I have received a volume of letters, making enquiry as to the cause—To answer them all at full length, would be constant employment for a week; therefore, I enclose you a copy of one answer, written to a friend of mine at Norfolk, which I expect will justify my conduct to you and him.

I do not think I shall visit New-York until I return from a short tour I contemplate making in the country, merely for the sake of exercise, when I shall be happy to see you. In the mean time let me hear from you—and believe me—always yours,

With real friendship and esteem,

THOMAS TRUXTON.

(COPY.)

Perth-Amboy, New-Jersey, Aug. 19, 1799.

DEAR SIR,

I have received your letter by Capt. BARRON, to whom I delivered up the command of the Constellation, in the road of Sandy Hook, last evening. As you have requested of me, a statement of the cause of my resignation, as far as I could consistently give it, I will readily comply with your desire, for I can, consistently, relate the whole cause, and every circumstance of it, there being nothing in the dark; and I am not ashamed of any part of my conduct:—No, Sir; I put all my enemies at defiance.

In the year 1794, an Act of Congress was passed for building six frigates, for a particular purpose, which act set forth; that, in case of a peace taking place between the United States and the Regency of Algiers, all further proceedings should cease under that Act. In consequence of this law, six captains were appointed, and the operations commenced for building the ships, under the superintendance of a captain to each frigate; but some time after the work had progressed considerably, the peace, restricted the further proceeding of building, took place, and the whole business was stopped agreeable to Law: but, another Act, after a struggle in the House of Representatives, was soon past; empowering the President to continue the building of three frigates, and pay, and rations, were provided for the captains only; and those three (Barry, Nicholson, Truxton,) were commissioned, and their commissions numbered, 1. 2. 3. in the above order, and Registered accordingly by directions of President Washington. The pay and subsistence of the other three (as they had become deranged officers) then ceased, until the affairs of the nation called for an augmentation of the naval armament, in 1798: when the President nominated them a second time to the Senate, who gave advice and consent to their appointment; consequently their commissions could only bear legal date, in my opinion, from that time, there being no permanent naval establishment—and their first appointment having died a natural death, with the law that gave birth to them.

It may again be said, as it has been argued, that the suspension of the functions of an officer, is no deprivation of his office; or that shaking down the apples is not cutting down the tree. This is all true, and will hold good where the law is alive to continue the office; but, whenever a law, by which an office is created, dies, all appointments (not continued by another law) under it, must die also: for a chief magistrate, cannot, by our Constitution, continue an office, beyond the life or existence of the law; and the derangements in our army, and subsequent appointments of old officers therein, give abundant proof of this fact; and in the case of Talbot, the very case in question! you see that the President would not risque the employment of him, on board a ship of war in the navy, until he nominated him a second time to the Senate, and had their advice and consent to his appointment.

Thus, Sir, you have, agreeable to your request, the whole story, told with candor and in as concise a manner as possible. And I now leave you to judge, whether I could as an officer, without despising myself, have done otherwise than resign; and I also leave you to judge of my feelings, after five years faithful service (of the best part of my life) attending the building of a ship of war, near two hundred miles from my family, and being constantly employed on board her in active scenes at sea, since she was fitted and manned—forsaking domestic ease and happiness—incurring disadvantages in private pursuits, and losses of many thousands of pounds, far beyond the prize money I have acquired, and the emoluments received from the service,

which I am ready to shew if necessary, and to prove; but this is not all, I am finally left to commence a new employment, and to set aside all the arrangements I had made for spending my life, in a service I was devoted to.

But, Sir, it was much better for me to be thus chagrined and deranged, in prospects I had in view, and to suffer a multitude of disadvantages, other than I have enumerated, than one title of my honor should be tinged, by submitting with tameness and pusillanimity to that injustice which I feel—injustice, which every palpitation of my soul tells me, is incomprehensible—but, Sir, I swear, by that long friendship that has subsisted between us, that I shall forever feel, as a true American ought to feel; and the last drop of my blood I will readily spill, at any time, by sea or land, for the preservation of the honor and interest of my grateful country, for such I acknowledge to have found it to me, in a variety of instances—but one exception has separated me from its service.

It would, at this time, perhaps, be improper me to communicate to you, any opinions of the officers of the government that have come to my knowledge, on the subject in question. I shall, therefore, only say, that in a letter from the Secretary of the Navy to me, dated the 15th June last, he says "My register stands Barry—Truxton—Talbot—Capt. Nicholson, on employment on shore, and is satisfied."

This gentleman (the Secretary) has behaved throughout the whole business, with the feelings of a true soldier, on the very delicate subject before us, and it is due to him, that I acknowledge it.

I am, with sentiments of regard, your friend and very humble servant.

(Signed)

THOMAS TRUXTON.

From the Boston Centinel of August 28.

It appears by the Inspruck (Tyrol) accounts to June 20th, that General Macdonald, availing himself of the dispersed situation of the Imperial divisions, has advanced from the Tuscan territories towards the Po, and has even attempted to pass that river, after possessing himself of Parma, Reggio and Modena. This offensive attitude we think must be of momentary continuance; for we are assured that General Bellegarde is in quick march to meet him, while the Generals, Kleman, Ott and Hohenzollern were concentrating their divisions to compel him to some decisive measures.

No additional movements of moment have been made. The Austrians still hold the erect attitude of the victorious assailant; while Massena exhibits the first traits of manly defence, waiting the tardy reinforcements from France.

The Newbury Port arrival makes no mention, as we have seen, of the arrival of the Dutch fleet at Genoa. But on perusing our Hamburg papers, we see accounts which render such an event possible. The Paris official Gazette of June 13, contains a letter from Toulon, dated May 27, mentioning that the fleet was then under orders to sail, and was only detained by contrary winds. The same paper of the 15th and the Moniteur of the 17th, assert its positive arrival at Genoa, where it had landed from 6 to 16000 troops.

After writing the above, we received London papers by the Heken, from Liverpool, to July 5th. They contain no particulars of Continental events, later than those received from Hamburg, except the French officials of the sortie of Longano, and of the victory gained by Macdonald over Gen. Ott, (which we have mentioned before) in which the French took 2000 prisoners, 45 officers, 12 or 15 cannon, waggons, standards, and from 4 to 500 horses. The Austrians, the French say, lost 1500 men in killed and wounded; while they suffered only 200, among whom however, was Gen. Forest.

IMPORTANT.

From the New-York Gazette. Sep. 4.

The letters published from Col. Barbaczy to the Archduke Charles, on the murder of Bounier and Roberjot, the two late Plenipotentiaries from the French Directory, at the Congress of Rastadt, affords another proof of the cruel villainy of the Paris Despots. The testimony they contain will be disputed only by our Jacobins, who resist the clearest evidence, and vindicate every measure of their favorite government, however base and atrocious. The desire of an Austrian escort by Bonnier and Roberjot—the absolute refusal of it by Jean de Brey—his ridiculous pretext "that the Ambassadors of Liberty were not made to be protected by the soldiers of despotism"—his precaution to dress himself in so many clothes of extraordinary thickness to prevent the sabres from penetrating—his escape unhurt—and the evidence of all the attendants to the truth of these facts, shew, to a demonstration, that this attack was a preconcerted plan between him, the Secretary Rosensteel, and the Directory, to get rid of his two unfortunate companions—But the most decisive proof is, the note found upon one of the assassins first seized, in which Rosensteel names the time, place, and circumstances for the massacre, points out the victims, indicates who is to be spared, and where himself and the papers of the legation were to be found—add to this the declaration of the ten ruffians last taken by Barbaczy's Huzzars, that they had been sent off within 8 days from Strasburg, but did not receive their final instructions till the evening of the 28th April—the exact date of Rosensteel's note—all these circumstances