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LONDON, January 11.

The dispatches brought by lieutenant Lecky, who arrived at the Admiralty on Thursday, are of some importance. A Polacre, from Egypt, bound to Toulon with confidential letters to the late French Directory and others, fell into the hands of our cruisers. The commander threw his packet overboard, but it was recovered by the enterprise and activity of an English sailor, who dived and brought it up. It has been sent home, and for these last two days, we understand that these letters have furnished infinite gratification to the curiosity of office. They contain, according to report, the most vehement complaints by the French soldiers of the desertion of Buonaparte, and the most bitter imprecations on the Government, for leaving them to perish by degrees in that inhospitable climate. A letter from Gen. Dugua to Barras, is particularly mentioned as containing political information of consequence. He says the whole of the French army in Egypt is reduced to 7000 men; that they have neither cloaths nor ammunition; and that they are utterly unfit to resist their enemy, who are above 40,000 strong, and well supplied with every necessary. He applies, therefore, to Barras, as one of the Directors, to exert himself to save the wretched remains of this army, for without the most immediate relief, not a man of them would be able to return to their native land.

Another letter says, that they must sue to the Turks for the means of escape from the horrors of their present situation; and there are, as heretofore, numbers of peevish epistles from husbands to their wives, and from lovers, sons, and brothers to their sympathizing friends. It is said that these letters are immediately to be published.

January 20.

Yesterday arrived Mr. Basilico, a King's messenger, with dispatches from Ireland. He left Dublin on the afternoon of Thursday last, and brought over the important result of the fifth day's debate on the opening of the present session of the Irish Parliament.

We have been favoured with the proceedings of the two Houses on that day. It will be seen that our previous information has been extremely accurate. There was no mention of the Union in the Lord Lieutenant's speech; but upon the introduction of an amendment by Sir L. Parsons in the address, in order to censure that measure, as negatived by a majority of Forty-two in favour of Government.

Our correspondent writes to us as follows:—

DUBLIN, January 16.

"The division of this morning has exceeded our most sanguine hopes. The House did not break up till half past 10 o'clock. When it meets for the discussion of the Union, which is fixed for Monday fortnight, there will be a call of the House. It is expected there will be an addition of twenty four members to the majority, as a number of seats have been vacated in consequence of new appointments since the last Session.

"Grattan came post from the borough of Wicklow, and spoke two hours in a most vehement manner. He did not arrive till 8 o'clock, and all the Anti-Union Lawyers were obliged to speak, to spin out the debate until his arrival.

"The town is perfectly quiet. A messenger is going off in an hour with the Division."

THE UNION.

All the leading points of the Union are at length finally arranged, previous to the grand discussion, which is expected to take place on the first day of the ensuing Session of the Irish Parliament, when the measure will be again recommended from the Throne. There will be a creation of seven Irish Peers, previous to the Union taking place.

The United Parliament of the two kingdoms, is to be called "the Imperial Parliament of the British Isles."

His Grace the Duke of Portland has issued a warrant against Peter Remer, a native of Tours in France, and late of Gorton near Manchester, Turkey red dyer, for his removal out of this kingdom, for using disrespectful words against this country—He is in consequence apprehended, and sent to Hull, where he is to be kept in custody, till a vessel is ready to take him to the Continent.

OFFICIAL.

Second letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, at Paris, with its accompanying inclosure: and the Answer returned by the Right Hon. Lord Grenville, his Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

[TRANSLATION].

Paris, 24 Nivose, 8th year, Jan. 14, 1800.

MY LORD,

I felt no time in leaving before the first consul of the

republic, the official note, under date of the 14th Nivose, which you transmitted to me; and am charged to forward the answer equally official, which you will find annexed. Receive, my Lord, the assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed) CH. MAU TALLEYRAND.

To the Minister for Foreign Affairs, at London.

Translation of the Note referred to, in No. 1.

The official note, under the date of the 14th Nivose, the 8th year, addressed by the Minister of his Britannic Majesty, having been laid before the first consul of the French republic, he observed with surprise, that it rested upon an opinion, which is not exact, respecting the origin and consequences of the present war. Very far from its being France which provoked it, she had, it must be remembered, from the commencement of her revolution, solemnly proclaimed her love of peace; and her disinclination to conquests; her respect for the independence of all governments; and it is not to be doubted that, occupied at that time entirely with her own internal affairs, she would have avoided taking part in those of Europe, and would have remained faithful to her declarations.

But from an opposite disposition, as soon as the French revolution had broken out, almost all Europe entered into a league for its destruction. The aggression was real a long time before it was public; internal resistance was excited; its opponents were favorably received; their extravagant declamations were supported; the French nation was insulted in the person of its agents; and England set particularly this example by the dismissal of the minister accredited to her. Finally, France was, in fact, attacked in her independence, in her honour, and in her safety, a long time before the war was declared.

Thus it is to the projects of subjection, dissolution and dismemberment, which were prepared against her, and the execution of which was several times attempted and pursued, that France has a right to impute the evils which she has suffered, and those which have afflicted Europe. Such projects, for a long time without example, with respect to so powerful a nation,

Assailed on all sides, the republic could not but extend universally the efforts of her defence; and it is only for the maintenance of her own independence that she has made use of those means which she possessed in her own strength and the courage of her citizens. As long as the law that her enemies obstinately refused to recognize her rights, she continued only upon the energy of her resistance; but as soon as they were obliged to abandon the hope of invasion, she sought means for reconciliation, and manifested pacific intentions; and if these have not always been efficacious; if, in the midst of the critical circumstances of her internal situation, which the revolution and the war have successively brought on, the former Depositories of the Executive Authority in France have not always shewn as much moderation as the nation itself has shewn courage, it must, above all, be imputed to the hateful and persevering animosity with which the resources of England have been lavished to accomplish the ruin of France.

But if the wishes of his Britannic Majesty (in conformity with his assurances) are in unison with those of the French Republic, for the re-establishment of peace, why, instead of attempting the apology of the war, should not attention be rather paid to the means of terminating it? And what obstacle can prevent a mutual understanding, of which the utility is reciprocal, and is felt, especially when the First Consul of the French Republic has personally given so many proofs of his eagerness to put an end to the calamities of war, and of his disposition to maintain the rigid observance of all treaties concluded.

The first Consul of the French Republic could not doubt that his Britannic Majesty recognized the right of Nations to choose the form of their government, since it is from the exercise of this right that he holds his crown; but he has been unable to comprehend how this fundamental principle, upon which rests the existence of Political Societies, the Minister of his Majesty could annex insinuations which tend to an interference in the internal affairs of the Republic, and which are no less injurious to the French Nation, and to its Government, than it would be to England, and to his Majesty, if a sort of invitation were held out in favour of that Republican Government of which England adopted the forms in the middle of the last century, or an exhortation to recall to the Throne that Family whom their birth had placed there, and whom a Revolution had compelled to descend from it.

If at periods not far distant, when the Constitutional System of the Republic presented neither the strength nor the solidity which it contains at present, his Bri-

tannic Majesty thought himself enabled to invite a negotiation and pacific conferences, how is it possible that he should not be eager to renew negotiations to which the present and reciprocal situation of affairs promises a rapid progress. On every side, the voice of Nations and of Humanity implors the conclusion of a war marked already by such great calamities, and the prolongation of which threatens Europe with an universal convulsion and irremediable evils. It is therefore to put a stop to the course of these calamities, or in order that their terrible consequences may be reproached to those only who shall have provoked them, that the First Consul of the French Republic proposes to put an immediate end to hostilities, by agreeing to a suspension of arms, and naming Plenipotentiaries on each side, who should repair to Denmark, or any other town as advantageously situated for the quickness of the respective communications, and who should apply themselves without any delay to effect the re-establishment of Peace and good understanding between the French Republic and England.

The First Consul offers to give the passports which may be necessary for this purpose.

(Signed) CH. M. TALLEYRAND.

Paris, 25th Nivose (14th Jan. 1800) 8th Year of the French Republic.

Letter from Lord Grenville to the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Paris.

Downing Street, January 20, 1800.

SIR,

I have the honour to inclose to you the answer which his Majesty had directed me to return to the official note which you transmitted to me. I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, Sir, your most obedient humble servant.

(Signed)

GRENVILLE.

To the Minister for Foreign Affairs, &c. &c. at Paris.

Note referred to in the preceding official note transmitted and received, which was designed on the 18th inst, has been laid before the King.

His Majesty cannot forbear expressing the concern with which he observes, in that note, that the unprovoked aggressions of France, the sole cause and origin of the war, are systematically defended by her present rulers, under the same injurious pretences by which they were originally attempted to be disguised. His Majesty will not enter into the refutation of allegations now universally exploded, and (in so far as they respect his Majesty's conduct) not only in themselves utterly groundless, but contradicted both by the internal evidence of the transactions to which they relate, and also by the express testimony (given at the time) of the government of France itself.

With respect to the object of the note his Majesty can only refer to the answer which he has already given.

He has explained, without reserve, the obstacles which, in his judgment, preclude at the present moment all hope of advantage from negotiation. All the inducements to treat, which are relied upon in the French official note; the personal dispositions which are said to prevail for the conclusion of peace and for the future observance of treaties; the powers of insuring the effect of these dispositions, supposing them to exist; and the solidity of the system newly established, after so rapid a succession of revolutions—all these are points which can be known only from that test to which his Majesty has already referred them—the result of experience and the evidence of facts.

With that sincerity and plainness which his anxiety for the re-establishment of peace indispensably required, his Majesty has pointed out to France the surest and speediest means for the attainment of that great object. But he has declared, in terms equally explicit, and with the same sincerity, that he entertains no desire to prescribe to a foreign nation the form of its government; that he looks only to the security of his own dominions and of Europe; and that whenever that essential object can in his judgment be, in any manner whatever sufficiently provided for, he will eagerly concert with his allies the means of immediate and joint negotiation for the re-establishment of general tranquillity.

To these declarations his Majesty steadily adheres; and it is only on the grounds thus stated, that his regard to the safety of his subjects will suffer him to renounce that system of vigorous defence, to which, under the favour of Providence, his kingdoms owe the security of those blessings which they now enjoy.

(Signed)

GRENVILLE.

Downing-street, Jan. 20, 1800.