

had been sent to Admiral Murry, who could not send them any assistance. Captain Gilder at sea spoke a vessel 2 days sail to the E. of Newfoundland, and was informed by her, that a fleet of ten sail of the line, and two frigates had taken Newfoundland, a 50 gun ship and 2 frigates, under Admiral Wallace. —The brig had dispatches for England. This last is the latest. A Marblehead fishing schooner was spoke having passengers from Newfoundland on board.

Captain Curtis from Halifax, about 15 days since, informs, that Admiral Murry lay there with a 74, and 4 frigates. —The people expected a visit from the French—he supposes there are about 1000 troops there.

CAPTURE OF NEUTRAL VESSELS:

We have fresh instances of the capture of neutral vessels, both by the French and English, when bound to an enemy's port. Among which are the brig Theodora, captain Vanize, of Philadelphia, bound to Martinique, carried into Basseterre, vessel and cargo condemned without a trial. A brig and sloop, both from Connecticut, cleared out for neutral ports, with horses and cattle, were condemned as soon as sent in [to Basseterre] and captains and men robbed of every thing; also a sloop from Charleston, bound to Antigua. —The ship Lydia, of this port, to Surinam for Hamburg, was carried into Grenada, and her cargo condemned, with costs of suit, &c. She arrived here on Saturday.

NEW-YORK, October 27.

**WAR!
ENGLAND AND SPAIN.**

We were last evening kindly favoured with a Halifax paper of the 18th inst. brought by the British Packet, the Princess of Wales arrived yesterday in ten days from Halifax, containing the following

PROCLAMATION.

By His Excellency Sir John Wentworth, Baronet, L. L. D. Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's province of Nova-Scotia, and its dependencies.

J. WENTWORTH.

Whereas information has been communicated to me, by his grace the Duke of Portland, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, that the most indubitable proofs of the hostile intentions of the Court of Spain against Great-Britain, have determined His Majesty to order his naval forces in every quarter of the world, not to neglect any favorable opportunity that may offer of attacking the fleets of Spain, either singly or united with those of France and Holland, or of striking any other blow at the possessions of that crown, and also signifying to me his majesty's commands, that I should in the most public manner possible, give such information to his majesty's subjects in this province, as may best enable them to prevent on the one hand any mischief which otherwise they might suffer from the Spaniards, and on the other hand, to do their utmost to distress and annoy them, by making captures of their ships and by destroying their commerce.

I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of his majesty's council, to publish this proclamation, hereby calling on, and requiring all his majesty's liege subjects, within his province of Nova Scotia and its dependencies, to take due notice, and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal at arms at Halifax, this 17th day of October, 1796, in the 36th year of his Majesty's reign.

By his excellency's command.

I. M. FREKEBULKELEY.

God Save the King.

PHILADELPHIA, October 26.

If we allow the Austrian official account to be exact, the French army, during their whole retreat from August 25 to September 3, has not lost more than from 6 to 10,000 men in killed, wounded and prisoners, besides one stand of colours, and seven pieces of artillery. The 60 pieces of heavy artillery which

fell into the hands of the Austrians at Schweinfurt, were carried off by the French from Nuremberg and Forcheim, in order to make use of them in their retreat as occasion should require. They left them in the defiles between Zell and Schweinfurt, which rendered the road from Bamberg to the latter town impracticable, and consequently the pursuit of the Austrians impossible. —Jourdan had advanced with seven divisions of his army within ten miles of Bohemia, and left five divisions on the banks of the Mein & the Rhine. On the 7th September the five divisions, led on by Marceau, Poncet, Hatry, Harville and Tille, had effected their junction with the retreating army, and occupied a fortified camp in the vicinity of Wetzlar and Wisbaden.

The army of the North had at the same time advanced to the banks of the Sieg, and will form the corps de reserve of the united forces of Jourdan.

NEWBERN, NOVEMBER 12.

The Hon. R. D. SPAIGHT, Esq. is chosen an Elector of the President and Vice-President of the United States for this district.

Supervisor's Office.

THERE has appeared in some parts of the district of North Carolina, a disposition among some Distillers of native materials to put themselves in a capacity to injure the United States by employing two Stills: one which they desire to elect to pay duty on its own capacity: the other to pay duty on the Spirits manufactured. Having thus made their election, it has been represented that their plan is, to work the Still elected to pay duty on the number of gallons distilled, and to make from thence low Wines, or single distilled spirits; which they erroneously do not denominate spirits; omitting to report them as such to the collector of the revenue; considering them as not so far manufactured as to be liable to duty: these then they pass over to the other still elected to pay duty on its capacity:—these rectified or made into a higher proof;—and are as they would persuade themselves not liable to duty: because this last still pays duty on its capacity. Here then is the evasion, upon which for the information of distillers. I remark—That every still actually employed in the distillation of spirits, is taxed to pay duty at the rate of 54 cents per annum on its capacity; but the law has given to distillers, a right of making a choice or an elected rate of payment; if this is on the number of gallons actually distilled—the quantity in gallons is to be returned in a book and sworn to.

The operation of making low wines is truly and absolutely the operation and process of distillation.—Low wines like all merchantable spirits, have a portion of water in them, but are nevertheless absolutely spirits of an inferior strength:—they are dutiable too; for the law is guarded, in not beginning the scale of dutied spirits at any fixed degree of strength: all spirits of whatever strength, comes within the letter of the law. The first class of spirits are all those below a certain standard, viz. "more than 10 per cent below proof." Here then, under proof spirits [taking the whole range from 10 per cent under, down to the very weakest spirits which the distilling process shall have produced] are liable to the payment of duty at the rate of seven cents per gallon. If a distiller, to defraud his customers, or his country, will make spirits no stronger than grog, he is nevertheless not exempted from liability of payment of duty.

If such grog or low wines be put into the other still which was elected to pay duty on its capacity; it cannot exempt that still from its monthly or annual duty, though it may produce [in addition] very serious consequences: for it must be further observed, that the law contemplates two branches of the distilling business. One branch is the making from raw materials, (that is of the growth or produce not manufacture of the United States) on which alone a licensed still, as such, can be regularly employed.—The other branch is,

the rectifying of low wines and other spirits of whatever denomination, weakness, strength, or flavour, and converting them into spirits of a new strength or flavour or name. That is to say, the making a new kind of spirits, as to strength, flavour or denomination from some previously manufactured material: not from materials as they were originally grown or produced, such as all kind of grain and fruit, or strictly raw materials.

The XIth Section of the Act of the 5th of June, 1794, fixes a penalty of one dollar per gallon on a rectifier of low wines or other inferior spirits which he shall rectify, without giving notice to an officer of Inspection. The words of the law are, "And be it further enacted, That every rectifier of low wines or other distilled spirits, and every distiller of cordials and strong water therefrom, shall enter at some office of Inspection, all or any such low wines or other distilled spirits, prior to the removal of them to his distillery or rectifying house, and prior to his beginning the rectifying, improving, or altering the quality, flavour, or proof thereof, under the penalty of One Hundred Dollars for every cask of one hundred gallons and so in proportion for every greater or less quantity."

The device for making low wines or other spirits of an inferior quality at one still, and rectifying or otherwise altering them at another, without proceeding as a rectifier, will appear from what I have offered, to be palpably wrong: for low wines, as has been before stated, are absolutely and in fact spirits produced by distillation, & come within the first class of proof, which comprehends all distilled spirits however low, that are 10 per cent below proof, for such are the words of the Act of the 3d of March, 1791, establishing the classes.

I shall only further observe, that if a distiller shall omit to report his spirits called low wines or other spirits by whatever name they may be called or however weak, which he may have distilled from a still, on which an election had been made, to pay the duty on the number of gallons distilled, and shall swear to the quantity distilled, omitting the low wines or other spirits of inferior quality; such distiller will be liable to prosecution, under the laws for false swearing.

Such devices and evasions are in their nature litigious and corrupted: they are inconsistent with justice to the honest citizens; they are injurious to the honest and upright distiller;—are absolutely defrauding the United States of their just revenue, in which each individual is more or less concerned.

Instructions have been issued to the officers of inspection to use every lawful means to detect abuses of the foregoing nature, and the infractors being detected, may depend upon the executive officers using every legal mean to procure punishment.

WILLIAM POLK, Supervisor of the Revenue district of North-Carolina
October 4th, 1796.

FOR SALE,

A LIKELY Horse, Saddle and Bridle: for terms enquire of Mr. Hall, at Mr. Grover's.
November 5.

IREDELL'S REVISAL
AND
ALMANACKS
for 1797.
For sale at this Office.

THE business respecting the copartnership of HARGET & DOWNS; is amicably settled to the satisfaction of the subscribers.
FRED. HARGET.
November 3.

FOR SALE,

A LIKELY NEGRO WENCH, who can cook, wash, &c. Enquire of THE PRINTER.
November 12.