

are the most favourable which we have received since the peace. In the heat of resentment respecting the treaty, some expressions escaped from a New-York gazette, respecting a division of the Northern from the Southern States, which have given occasion to several discussions. They serve to convince the public of the danger of local views, when they prevail over the public interest. A memorial has been presented to Congress from the merchants of Philadelphia, upon the subject of property detained in the West Indies by the French. These memorials will at least serve to maintain an impartiality, in the public opinion of the powers at war. The late rains have been very refreshing. The season in all respects is favourable, and health dwells in all our habitations.

Capt. Buffinton arrived here on Thursday last, in 43 days from Lisbon. Five days after he left the rock of Lisbon, he fell in with an English fleet, and was boarded by officers of a sloop of war belonging to it, by whom he was treated very civilly. They informed him, that the fleet consisted of seven sail of the line, three frigates, and 50 transports, bound to the West Indies. Two days afterwards Capt. B. fell in with a French fleet, by which he was also brought too and boarded. He gave them every information in his power respecting the English fleet; for which, from their conduct, he conjectured they were cruising. He supposed their force to be superior to that of the English, though they stated it at about the same; and he supposed, if it was their wish, that they must have met with them in about three or four days after.

From the Gazette of the United States, May 20. Philadelphia, May 7th, 1796.

DEAR SIR,
I beg leave to exhibit to your view a sketch of our deliberations. The resolution, requesting the President to lay before us the documents relative to the British treaty, was passed by a majority of twenty-five, but the request was not granted, and on the message of refusal two reasons were adduced; First, That when a treaty was advised by two-thirds of the Senate and ratified by the President, that it was the supreme law of the land; and Second, That our request did not indicate that there was an impeachment intended.

On which the following resolutions were entered on the journals.

Resolved, That it being declared by the second section of the second article in the Constitution, that the President, with the advice and consent of two thirds of the Senate, shall have power to make treaties, the House of Representatives do not claim any agency in making treaties. But when a treaty stipulates regulations on any of the subjects submitted by the constitution to the power of Congress, it must depend for its execution, as to such stipulation, on a law or laws to be passed by Congress; and it is the constitutional duty and right of the House of Representatives in all such cases, to deliberate on the expediency or in expediency of carrying such treaty into effect; and to determine and act thereon, as in their judgments may most conduce to the public good.

Also, Resolved, That it is not necessary to the propriety of any application from this House to the Executive for information desired by them; and which may relate to any constitutional functions of the House; that the purposes for which such information may be wanted, or to which the same may be applied, should be stated in the application.

The first resolution announced the right of the House to act upon certain treaties. The second went to the other part of the President's answer.—Upon these resolutions, had all the members been present, the majority would have been the same as on the call for the papers.

A resolution was laid on the table to carry into effect the British treaty; and after a conflict of two weeks in arduous debate, it is with regret I inform you, that the influence of the executive, with that of the bankers, merchants, and speculators of every kind, has changed the majority of twenty-five into a minority of three. The debates are given in the papers which I will forward. But as I thought this a matter of great concern, more particularly as the Executive and a majority of this House divide in opinion on their constitutional powers, I have engaged a publication of a full copy to each county composing my division, that my constituents may have recourse to them, and judge for themselves. So far as they are published I have directed them to the following persons, to whom I shall send the balance. In Lincoln, Colonel Moore; Wilkes, Colonel Herndon; Burke, John H. Stephens, Esq. Buncombe, Colonel Love; and in Rutherford, D. Dickey, Esq.

The laws to carry into effect the Indian, Algerine, Spanish, and British treaties have passed. The military and naval establishments are reduced to one half of their original extent. The trading house and intercourse bills have passed. The bill for the sale of the lands North West of the Ohio, has passed our house. No lands are to be sold for less than two dollars per acre. This may enable us to form an estimate of the value of our lands. A bill for the protection of American seamen has also passed us; they are both undergoing alterations in the Senate. The bill the better to regulate the militia, the out-lawry and bankrupt bills, I hope will be dispensed with this session. There are a variety of

other bills before us, and many others passed, that I shall omit mentioning. I have procured some alteration in the Post route; but it is uncertain whether it will pass the senate. The Charlotte extends to Lincolnton. The Morgan to Spartanburgh, by Rutherford, from Rutherford one is to extend to Buncombe; thus all the counties are to be accommodated.

We have resolved, after much opposition, that the state of Tennessee shall be admitted into the Union. But the conduct of the senate is doubtful; the eastern states are afraid of the balance of power.

It would be impossible to give in a letter a satisfactory statement of our revenue and expenditures. It may suffice to say, that the former are not equal to the latter, and that the flourishing state of the Union is more owing to extraneous causes, than to the administration; and that it is essential to our independence to economise.

I am informed that general Dickson, M'Dowell, and M'Lane, are candidates at the ensuing election. I could have wished that the struggle had remained as formerly, as general M'Dowell appeared dissatisfied. My ambition would not have exceeded one other election, that it might be in my power to give the most explicit and satisfactory evidence of my attachment, assiduity, and integrity. Some time elapsed this session, before I had it in my power to take a full share in legislative exertion, and indeed this is incident to all new members. But if my constituents will be so good as to examine my conduct in debate, silent vote, or otherwise, they will find themselves attached to my interest. I have had recourse to pen and press, to give the fullest information. But am aware, while some have been personally addressed, and others omitted, that I may be charged with partiality. To prevent which I have often wrote, until two in the morning; when *action gave place to weakness*, and even then hundreds crowded into my mind equally intitled to my attention.

If the counties, agreeably to my request, had appointed persons of correspondence, I should have been relieved from this dilemma, and given more connected information.

My dear friend, there is nothing in this service, exclusive of the confidence and gratitude of my constituents, worth the sacrifice. The enhanced price of subsistence renders it at present unprofitable and unworthy of the talents essential to the service; the business is arduous, when alone, on dry books, writing and study, when in company, in debate, counteracted in our best designs, and often on the brink of success disappointed; and far removed from domestic happiness, cut off from family and friends. For this no pecuniary equivalent is adequate; nothing but a conscientiousness of having discharged my duty, and of having obtained full confidence, could be to me a complete reward. Having secured this, I could freely give place to any fellow citizen, that others too might obtain the consolation due to faithful service.

I am happy to tell you, the session is near a close, and anticipate the joy of meeting my family and friends. I am with esteem, your humble servant,
JAMES HOLLAND.

From the same paper of May 21.

Mr. PENNO,
IN the Gazette of the United States of yesterday, is published a private letter intended for my particular friend. It is unknown to me how you come by it; or for what purpose you have inserted it in your paper. Both your possession and publication was unauthorized by me.

21st May, 1796.
Please to give the above a place in this day's and Monday's paper.
J. H.

[The letter above mentioned was a printed letter, and was enclosed in a cover addressed to the Editor, on which was written "For publication."]

PHILADELPHIA, May 18.

Extract of a letter from Cape Francois, dated Floral 5.
"We have just received officially the news of the fleet which is coming to this country.—The commissioners Rouse and Leblanc, are arrived at St. Domingo, in a frigate detached from the squadron. We are informed that the fleet consists of 27 ships and 28,000 land forces. Citizens Santhonax, Raimond, and Creuse Pascal, are among the members of the directory. We expect them daily."

The several accounts respecting the French fleet, it will be perceived from the extracts of letters, &c. we have already published, differ as to its strength and the number of land forces sent out. But even the lowest account given makes the armament very considerable. We may early expect news of some decisive blow struck in the West-Indies.

From the COURIER FRANCAIS of May 17.

J. B. Dewis, captain of the Lively, arrived here on Saturday from the Cape in 14 days, informs that citizen Rouse, one of the agents general of the colonial directory, is arrived at St. Domingo, in the Juno frigate (a vessel formerly French, now Spanish) three days before his sailing. This agent announces officially to governor Lavesaux that he is followed by Santhonax, chief of the five agents general; among whom are Raymond, Leblanc, and Geraud;

that Rouse sailed from Cadiz and had a passage of 30 days; that the delay of the fleet was occasioned by a visit which his Catholic Majesty paid it. The strength of the land force to be brought out was not known. The fleet consisted of 20 French ships of the line, and 17 Spanish vessels.

The capt. farther states, that 5 vessels now at Caraque are to join the fleet as soon as it arrives.

Perroud, ordonator, accompanied by citizens Grande and Traillinet, was sent to meet the fleet upon an armed vessel. These details are authentic.

The corvette Pierson has sailed for France, having on board the accomplices of the conspiracy which had broken out. Palem Sunday was the day set apart for the massacre of the whites and of the constituted authorities. Some whites were concerned with the mulattoes in this plot, and have been arrested.

ALEXANDRIA, May 11.

Citizen Aric—i received last night official information of the arrival at St. Domingo of a French fleet, with 30,000 troops, and five chiefs of the directory for the government of that island.

This important event will open to the merchants of America a good chance for the sale of provisions, and safety for the navigation in those seas, which shall be soon free of those who, without respect to your rights as a neutral nation, take your persons and property. Salute and fraternity,

P. A. CHERUI.
8 Prairial, 4th year of the French Republic, one and indivisible. (21st May, 1796.)

NORFOLK, May 23.

We have endeavoured to trace the report in circulation yesterday respecting the probability of peace in Europe, and are enabled to lay before our readers the following particulars:

Mr. Cronier (formerly a merchant of respectability at Jacmel in Hispaniola) arrived at Baltimore last Wednesday, from Havre-de-Grace, which he left the 4th April. On his route from Baltimore to Charleston he anchored in Hampton Roads, and came up to town yesterday for a few hours. He reports that envoys from Emperor, the Kings of Naples and Sardinia and several other powers of Italy, had met at Basle for the purpose of concluding a peace with France;—that whilst the negotiation was pending, a courier arrived there requesting that an accommodation might take place between Great Britain and France; in consequence the negotiation was suspended till the arrival of a person vested with powers to treat on the part of Great Britain. It was understood that the French had agreed to give up their plan of making the Rhine a boundary of the Republic, but were to keep Namur, Courtray, Luxembourg, and the country of Liege, including Maestricht; and that the armies had retired 30 leagues from each other, till the issue of the negotiation was made known.

May 24. Yesterday arrived the schooner Betsley, captain Dalton, 13 days from Cape Nichola Mole, who informs that a fleet of 400 sail of transports with 25,000 troops from England and Ireland, had arrived at Barbadoes; 9000 of which were dispatched to the Mole, and 8000 against Grenada and St. Lucia.

MAY 26.
Extract of a letter from Martinique, dated May 3, to a gentleman in this town.

"I have the pleasure to inform you that the forces under general Abercrombie have safely effected a landing at St. Lucia, and that the British arms promise to be victorious, as they have driven the enemy from the whole of their out posts except Pigeon island—Morne Fortune is completely invested. They have taken commissioner Goyrand, with his family, and three chests of plate and money, going off in a schooner, and he is now on board of Admiral Christian, who is very active in the business.

"We have accounts of the capture of Demarara; another fleet is arrived at Barbadoes and St. Vincent's. Our minister intends sending 3000 troops every two or three months in future, and we have every reason to suppose this island will continue English."

Brigadier-general Keppel, governor of the island of Martinico, has issued a proclamation, permitting until the first day of August next, all foreign vessels belonging to the subjects of any power or state in amity with his Britannic majesty, laden with provisions of every kind (excepting only salted beef, salted pork and butter) to enter and be admitted into ports of Post Royal, St. Pierre and Trinity, the importers thereof paying the colonial duties, and no other; and being allowed to take rum and molasses in return.

May 28. On Thursday evening arrived the ship Hudibras, capt. Leroy, in 50 days from Hamburg. She brought no papers, but the captain informs that the armies on the Rhine had suspended hostilities till the issue of the pending negotiation was known. She left Hamburg the 5th April.

By a late arrival from Cape Nichola Mole, we learn that the ship Ardent, of Baltimore, Capt. Smith, (mounting eight four pounders) on his passage from the Mole to Jamaica, was captured off the Mole by three men of war's boats, and ordered under commodore's Bowen's stern.

The sloop Comet, captain Kims, from Newbern, was at the Mole, with a cargo of tar, shingles and corn, unsaleable.—Tar would not fetch more than a dollar per barrel.

May 31. On Saturday arrived in Hampton Road, the brig Winnifred, captain William Colley, from