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Foreign Intelligence, by the latest arrivals.

LONDON, August 29.

Yesterday capt. Home, of the Africa, of 64 guns, arrived at the admiralty-office, with the pleasing intelligence of the safe arrival in the Downs of the homeward bound Jamaica fleet of merchantmen, under convoy of that ship.

Advices were also received yesterday of the safe arrival of the principal part of the leeward island and Mediterranean fleets at the same place: the Liverpool, Bristol and Irish trade having proceeded under escort of the Doris frigate.

An order of Council will be shortly issued to permit East-India goods to be shipped in neutral bottoms direct for Holland. A notice to this effect has been posted at Lloyd's.

Yesterday arrived at Poole, a cartel from Cherbourg, with prisoners—they bring an account that a great number of privateers are at sea. They likewise say, that they are preparing all along the coast of France, for some important expedition—And that at Brest, and in its neighbourhood, there were one hundred thousand men assembled, for the purpose of making a descent upon England or Ireland.

An order has been sent by government to the lord lieutenant of counties in England and Wales, enjoining them to transmit with all possible speed, an account of the number of men in their several counties capable of bearing arms, distinguishing, at the same time, their ages and occupations. This return is supposed to be required preparatory to some measures for the increase of the national force.

Orders have been sent out, and a ship is actually dispatched from Gibraltar to bring home Sir Gilbert Elliot and his suite from the precious island of Corsica, which is found to be untenable on the event of the total loss of Italy to our allies.

Admiral Colpoys' Squadron, which has returned to Plymouth, after ensuring the safety of the West-India fleet, looked into the harbour of Brest on Sunday the 21st inst. where he saw twelve sail of the line and eleven frigates, ready for sea. The harbour is blocked up by the Squadron under the command of admiral Gardner.

The Paris Journals, of the 23d and 24th instant, reached us yesterday. By a letter from gen. Buonaparte, it appears that the French still continue successful in Italy. On the 11th instant, gen. Massena attacked the Imperial troops at Coronna and Montebaldo, where they appeared desirous to make a stand—they were defeated with the loss of seven pieces of cannon, 400 prisoners, and forced to retreat. On the succeeding day, general St. Hilaire forced the Austrians from Roque d'Anfonce, after an engagement, in which he took their baggage, 6 pieces of cannon, and 1100 men. General Angereau has crossed the Addige, taken 200 prisoners, and compelled Wurmsier to fall back on Roveredo.

In the last accounts from Moreau's army, which were published in Paris on the 19th, and given in the Star of the 24th, that general, finishing the event of a battle which took place on the 11th, and lasted for 17 hours, in which the Austrians were at first successful but afterwards defeated, promised to send the particulars of this and two other obstinate battles in which he had been engaged. In vain have we examined all the papers that have reached us to find the promised account. The last letter from that general dated the 12th, arrived in Paris the 15th, and the lapse of six days without the promised details, give reason to suspect that the Austrians have cut out more work for him than he has been willing to confess. It is manifest that the Emperor had sent strong reinforcements both to the Archduke and Wurmsier, to enable them to make a vigorous effort to turn the tide of war. They have made the attempt, and though they have not been altogether successful, we imagine they have partly stopped the further progress of the French. Mantua has been relieved, Buonaparte cannot find himself in a condition to follow Wurmsier through the mountains of Tyrol; and Moreau if victorious has at last found an enemy capable of some resistance.

It is true that one of the Paris papers mentions a report that Mantua had capitulated to the French. This, however, must not be credited on such slight authority.

The article in these papers of most importance to this country, is the one which states, that the Prussian ambassador had received dispatches from Madrid, announcing that the court of Spain has formally declared war against England. This is not given as confirmed intelligence, but we have doubt that it is true as to its essence.

A Dutch paper of the 22d inst. has the following article:

"A letter from Hamsu, of the 15th inst. positively asserts the Landgrave of Hesse, Cassel to have received information, that a large Russian army would march into Bohemia, not only to defend that country from an invasion on the part of the French, but even to act offensively against the latter, and all those German states who, contrary to the constitution of the Empire, had abandoned its chiefs, and concluded separate treaties with the republic. The elector of Saxony has raised an army of 60,000 men, which is to act in concert with the Russians and Austrians, to save the Imperial authority from ruin."

General Jourdan has refused to treat Ratisbon as a neutral place.

Sept. 7. By the dispatches received from Mr. Hammond, we learn, that his mission has failed in toto; the king of Prussia having not only rejected the proposal made to him by our court, which went to guarantee to him certain very important territories and a sea-port, but received Mr. Hammond in the most ungracious manner! This is an insult not to be wondered at, after submitting to such a humiliation, as to apply to that very power which deceived us, broke faith with us, and cheated us of our money.

The object of Mr. Hammond's mission is said to have been two fold: first, to ascertain the final determination of the French government on the conditions of peace.—and secondly, if that determination should prove to be such as to render the continuation of the war inevitable, to detach the Prussian monarch from his alliance with the French, and to induce him to rejoin that confederacy which he was the first to establish, and the first to desert. In both these points, Mr. Hammond has completely failed: and the failure has justified the apprehensions of those who were capable of forming any judgment of the present state of continental affairs.

Some of our politicians are now convinced of what they ought to have seen long ago, that the royal plunderer of Poland is determined to take every possible advantage of the emperor's distressed situation. The party states too, at least as many as are within his power will soon participate in the blessings of his paternal care and affection.

The demands of the French Directory, communicated through our late faithful ally, are said to be such as might be expected through such a channel. In fact, they go clearly to prove one of two things—either that Prussia is not the channel by which negotiations at all honourable to this country can be carried on; or, that the directory will not, through any foreign medium, treat with our present ministry. We pretend not to determine which of these is the fact.

The emperor, we are told, is determined to defend his dominions to the last. It is natural he should do so; but it is confidently reported, that he has no intention to carry on the war any longer; that he now labours to give peace to his dominions by a treaty with the French; and that, if nothing unforeseen retard the negotiations, a peace between these two powers will be concluded before the end of next month.

The emoluments of the offices held by the late earl of Mansfield, amounted to upwards of 10,000l. per ann. We do not complain that the most of them were *pecuniary* places: every man ought to have places suited to his abilities, and if Mr. Pitt has provided for many of his friends in this way, it is a proof that he knows exactly what they are fit for.

The emperor has issued a proclamation, in which he calls upon his subjects to take up arms, to avert the danger which threatens them, from the destructive progress of the French; but expresses his resolution not to have recourse, but in the last extremity, to those violent measures to which the enemy have been solely indebted for the success of their arms.—He professes a just reliance on the fidelity of his subjects, for whom he avows a firm attachment.

By the mail from Lisbon, information is said to have been received, that the Portuguese court have agreed to the demand made by the French of twenty five millions of cruzades, but has refused to break off the commercial intercourse with England.

One of the most simple and useful discoveries in AGRICULTURE, comprehending pasturage, is to mix green, or new cut clover, with layers of straw, in ricks and stacks. Thus the sap and strength of the clover is absorbed by the straw, which, thus impregnated, both horses and cattle eat greedily; and thus the clover is dried, and prevented from heating. This practice is particularly calculated for second crops of clover, or clover and rye-grass.

PROSPECT OF PEACE.

Sept. 6. The indirect attempt of ministers to negotiate with the French republic, having failed, we are happy to hear, that, waving every little, paltry

consideration of etiquette on a business so seriously momentous, they have, with much wisdom and propriety, finally determined to meet the question of War or Peace, in the most fair, open and honourable manner, guided, or rather unembarrassed, by the intervention of any other power.

Mr. Hammond's interview with the king of Prussia, altho' it did not produce the advantages which were expected to result from it, nevertheless enabled that gentleman to ascertain at least one very material and important fact, namely, "That the French government had not the smallest objection to treat with this country—but that, for the purpose of supporting their constitution in the eyes of their country, and proving to all Europe the ample consolidation of the republic, any proposition the British cabinet might have to make on the subject of peace, must be made in a direct and unequivocal manner to the directory itself."

In consequence of this intimation, the cabinet immediately proceeded to deliberate on the question; and, after considerable debate, it was at length decided that an accredited agent should be sent immediately to Paris, invested with all the necessary powers for opening a negotiation with the executive directory, and empowered to submit to them such terms as our ministers are willing to agree to, for the purpose of restoring peace to Europe. These terms are already drawn up. We are well assured they have been dictated by sincerity, and that they are at once so liberal, wise, and honourable, as to afford the most rational ground of hope that they cannot fail to produce the favourable impression not only upon the members of the French government, but upon the French nation at large, especially when it is considered that the executive directory (owing to the present ruinous state of their finances, and the distressed condition of their affairs, independent of the recent check they have experienced in Germany) must be as anxious to bring the war to a speedy termination, as either of the powers with whom they have to contend. Of the nature of the propositions we are not yet correctly informed—but it has been hinted to us, from a quarter of the greatest respectability, that the grand basis of the proposed negotiation is likely to be, a restoration of all our conquests in the West-Indies, during the present war, and a formal cession of the whole of the conquered territories on the left bank of the Rhine. The enemy, on their part, to evacuate the Milanese, and all the other countries of Italy now in their power.

The person whom ministers have made choice of to carry into execution this important object, is the Hon. Thomas Grenville, a gentleman of acknowledged abilities in the diplomatic line, and every way qualified for the weighty trust, adding to a profound and extensive knowledge, an elegance of address and manners, that has ever rendered him respected and admired. He was employed on a very important mission to France towards the conclusion of the last war, and proved himself, although then very young, to be perfectly adequate to the task.

Mr. Grenville is to be accompanied by an official gentleman as his secretary, and as soon as the necessary passport is procured for him from the French government, it is intended he shall embark with his suite, on board a frigate at Brighton, for Dieppe.

The bank has lately refused to discount the bills of some of the most respectable houses in the city.

Sept. 10. His majesty, we are assured, is decidedly in favour of an immediate peace, and has expressed his determination to use every means in his power to bring about that desirable object, with as little delay as possible.

A messenger was sent off to Vienna on Thursday, with the determination of our cabinet to propose terms of peace to the French government.

The party writers are now more enraged at Mr. Pitt's conduct than ever, because he is determined to make proposals to the French of so liberal and equitable a nature, that if peace does not result from them, the failure will not be imputable to the British cabinet. The indirect means lately had recourse to by ministers to obtain peace, was deemed by those writers arrogant and silly, and the open and honourable line of conduct, now adopted by them, is termed a degrading humiliation. Say, gentlemen, which way will you have it?

There is something extraordinary in the present aspect of our affairs. If appearances are to be trusted, we are offering peace to France, and about to engage in a war with Spain! Is it to be expected that the former will accede to any terms of peace in which the latter is not included? Would Spain engage in a war with Great-Britain, if not well assured of the aid of France? There is but one mode of solving these difficulties, which is by supposing that our ministers, properly sacrificing all punctilio, are determined to try whether all differences may