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SALEM, February 17.

WAR IN INDIA.

Between Tippoo Saib and the English.

By Capt. Derby, in the brig Cadet, 67 days from the Cape of Good Hope, we are informed, that a few days previous to his touching at the Cape, two British packets had arrived there, one from Calcutta, and the other from Bombay. That notwithstanding a profound secrecy was observed respecting the intelligence they brought, it had transpired that Tippoo was making formidable preparations for war; that the Mahrattas were disaffected, and were about to join him.

It was confidently reported that 4 or 500 French officers had been sent over by the way of the Mediterranean, to serve in Tippoo's army. It was not certain that hostilities had actually commenced, but that the British every day expected an attack. Immediately after the arrival of the packets, four British regiments were sent on in the outward bound India fleet, consisting of 17 sail under convoy of one ship of war and a frigate.

Tippoo can with ease bring an army of 200,000 well disciplined men into the field. His soldiers (Seapoys) are equal to any Europeans in that country, who are soon after their arrival enervated by the climate. He is dreaded by the English, and is the mortal and declared enemy. He is a prince of known courage and address, and very powerful. His avowed plan is to drive these usurpers (as he justly calls the English) from the Indian territory altogether—and he has been once near effecting it, and may do it again. His supply of French officers is a valuable acquisition, and what he most needed; they were undoubtedly sent by the Executive Directory of France. Indeed this business was always a favourite contemplation of that government; but which the revolution for a time has prevented.

Gen. Dundas has arrived at the Cape, to supersede Gen. Craig in the command of the garrison at that place. Lord Macartney was expected daily. Gen. Craig had received an appointment in India, and was to go on there immediately after Lord Macartney's arrival. This circumstance is joyous to the inhabitants of the Cape, and auspicious to the Americans who may arrive there. Gen. Craig treated them with ineffable contempt, whenever they solicited the least indulgence. When they entered his apartment, he assumed the air and dignity of a Nabob, strutted like a conceited player as soon as their prayers were made known, damned the American flag, and invoked the vengeance of heaven on their curbed heads. This redoubtable general was an officer in America during the war, and was compelled to be present at York-town, when Cornwallis resigned his sword to the illustrious Washington. Scotchmen have good memories, and the old general's will end only with his life. The inhabitants anticipated with pleasure the arrival of Lord Macartney, who is a complete gentleman (the very reverse of Craig) and under whose government they had no doubt of renewing their former trade and intercourse with the Americans.

The late admiral Lucas, whose heroism cannot now be sullied, was treated with every indignity by the inhabitants at Cape-town, for his dastardly conduct in delivering up the fleet under his command to the English, at a time when he might have immortalized his fame, and revived the ancient glory of the Batavian flag. It is asserted, that like the Dutch governor of the Cape, he was charmed by English gold-fishes, and like another Arnold, basely betrayed his country.

The English are only in possession of Cape-town, and False and Saldania bay, and the country inhabitants refuse to give up, and are in respectable force.

NEW-YORK, February 23.

Translated for the Daily Advertiser.

HAGUE, December 1.

The discussions on the plan of a new constitution for this republic have lasted in the Batavian National Assembly, until the 28th Nov. Never perhaps were opinions so decidedly we may even say so equally divided. Nobody it is true, maintains that it is above criticism, or that it does not require some material alterations in several respects—such especially, as an assembly of seven persons which under the name of Council of State would not only enjoy executive, but with respect to the promulgation and execution of the laws would be vested with prohibitory powers—powers of so much the greater magnitude, as although the authority of the council of state would not exceed that of the Executive Directory of France, yet the legislative body is not to have a permanent session, and would be represented during its two vacations by a small de-

putation from the House of Ancients. With respect to the second point in debate, viz. that respecting the unity and indivisibility of the republic—the modifications of the plan by the establishment of Department Administrations met with as many opposers as advocates, by reason of the double difficulty of making the debts of some of the states common to all—and of ascertaining the true ratio of the relative means of each province (each having different resources and means of subsisting their inhabitants) to bear their equal proportion of taxes and imposts. The 20th was finally fixed upon to decide under the presidency of citizen Ybrand Van Haemelsveld. This difficult and important question of which a number of citizens of different towns had petitioned in favour of an absolute unity, this step has procured them the gratification of an honorable mention, without approving the tenor of their addresses.

Some members proposed to make the plan the basis of the deliberations, and appoint a commission which in four weeks should bring in a report on the means of affecting the absolute unity with respect to the general finances and taxes. But the conciliatory proposition not being adopted, after some disorder either in the assembly itself or in the galleries, the nominal appeal decided by a majority of 66 to 52 votes, "that the proposed plan of constitution should form the basis of the national assembly's deliberations."

A letter from Vienna of Nov. 26, mentions that a nobleman had arrived from Italy, with the news of the murderous battles, of which we have had the details:—On account of the retreat of Alvinzy, the emperor had determined to send him a reinforcement of 12,000 men.

Empress of Russia.

Under the Hamburg head of the 3d December, is the following—"By an express arrived this morning from Rigo, we have received the account that her Imperial majesty, Catherine II. died on the 17th November, and that his highness Grand Duke Paul Petrowitch, has been proclaimed Emperor."

In the paper of the 6th, are the following remarks on the above intelligence—"The messenger said to have arrived on Friday, express from Rigo, was not on his way to London. Since that time neither the Russian Charge d'Affairs has received any official news—nor has any courier passed thro' this city to London. No knowledge of the death of the empress was received at Berlin, tho' some private letters received at Kounisberg make mention of it. It is therefore probable, that this is premature."

By letters from Presburg of Nov. 22, it appears that the Diet at Presburg, have granted to the emperor the following supplies for the prosecution of the war; 50,000 Hungarians, exclusive of those requisite to complete the regiments already in the field—20,000 oxen—10,000 horses—2,400,000 bushels of grain—3,760,000 do. oats. And in case the numbers at present granted, are not sufficient to obtain an honourable peace, a general rising "en masse" will be determined on.

The Austrian official account of the battles in Italy nearly agree with the French but the former represent the lots on each side as nearly equal. Among the prisoners taken by Davidovich, at Rivolo, were two French generals, Florella and Valette.

A new convention between the French republic and Genoa excludes the English from the Genoese ports during the war, and the vessels of the latter are prohibited to carry provisions to the British. Genoa is to protect her own forts and harbours, but in case of necessity she is to be aided by French troops. If Genoa shall be involved in a war with England, France will undertake to protect her trade and navigation and will assist her with ships of war and intercede for her in negotiations for peace. Genoa pays to France 2 millions of livres in advance and a million to be repaid after peace.

Feb. 25. Yesterday arrived the brig Esperanza, capt. D. Travis, in 18 days from Port-au-Prince. He informs, that the British give convoy to all American vessels bound to Cape Nicholas-Mole, or any British port up the Bire of Leogane.

The British armed ship Roman Emperor capt. Kerney, convoyed capt. Travis, with other Americans from Port-au-Prince to the Mole. On the passage a sail was discovered to leeward, on the 7th of February, off the Platform, which the Roman Emperor gave chase to—she proved to be a lugger privateer—she maintained a running fight for two hours—then obliged to strike to superior force, and was carried into the Mole.

Provisions of all kinds, except fresh, are very plenty at Port-au-Prince. A brig from Rhode-

Island arrived at that port, while capt. T. lay there, laden with oxen, tows, &c. the admiral purchased the whole of his cargo for the use of the fleet, and paid him in cash with which the capt. was much pleased, and sailed a few days after for the Havanna.

The following important Arret, received by capt. Gibaut, from Guadaloupe, is just handed us in the original French.

LIBERTY. EQUALITY.

A R R E T.

The special agents of the Executive Directory in the West-Indies.

Considering that the ports of the islands, at the windward and leeward, as well as those of Demarara, Sequibo, and Berbice, delivered up to the English, occupied and defended by the emigrants, are in a state of permanent siege, and ought not to enjoy the same advantages as the ports of the different English colonies, passed by that power before the war and by other titles.

Considering it to be contrary to every principle to treat a horde of rebels, without country, without government, or a flag, with the same regard which civilized nations observe among themselves during war.

Considering that by authentic acts in our possession, it is proved that divers places of the colonies delivered to the English by the French and Dutch rebels, belong not to the British government, more than La Vendee, in which the English minister had also the mercenary troops, regiments in their pay, wearing the same uniform as the troops of the king of England.

Considering that by virtue of the second article of the treaty of alliance, concluded at Paris, Feb. 6th 1778, between the United States and France, the former power engages to defend the possessions in America in case of war, and the government and commerce of the United States have strangely abused the forbearance of the French republic, in turning to her detriment the favours which had been accorded to them of entering and trading in all the ports of the French colonies.

By permitting for a longer time neutral vessels to carry provisions of war and of subsistence, to men idently in a state of rebellion, we should be the means of prolonging civil war, the calamities and crimes which proceed therefrom—order as follows:

Article I. The ships of the republic and French privateers are authorized to take and conduct, into the ports of the republic, neutral vessels destined for the windward and leeward islands of America, delivered up to the English, occupied and defended by the emigrants.

These ports are Martinique, St. Lucie, Tobago, Demarara, Berbice, Essequibo and at the leeward, Port-au-Prince, St. Marks, l'Arcays and Jeremie.

Art. II. Every armed vessel, having a commission from either of those ports, shall be reputed a pirate, and the crews adjudged and punished as such.

Art. III. The vessels and cargoes, described in the 1st and 2d articles, are declared good prizes, and shall be sold for the benefit of the captors.

Art. IV. Every vessel taken which shall be cleared out to the West-Indies generally, is comprehended in the 1st and 2d articles.

Art. V. The order of last Nivose, 4th year, in pursuance of the decree of the Executive Directory of the 14th Messidor, 4th year, shall be executed till further orders, in every particular not contriving this ordinance.

This order shall be printed, transcribed into the register of the criminal tribunal and of commerce, sent to all the ports of the French colonies, ready, published, and posted up wherever it may be necessary.

It shall be notified officially to the neutral governments of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. Bartholomews.

Enjoining on the criminal tribunal, and of commerce at Guadaloupe, their delegates in the different French colonies and elsewhere, on the admiral commandant on the West-India station, and on the chief, of the administration, strictly to execute this arret each in his respective department.

Done at Basseterre, Guadaloupe, the 13th Pluviose, 5th year of the French republic, one and indivisible.

(Signed) VICTOR HUGUES and LEBAS.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 25.

The reply of the Vice-President of the United States, to the address of the Senate Feb. 23. 1797. An address so respectful and affectionate as this from gentlemen of such experience and established character in public affairs, high stations in the government of the country, and great consideration