

LONDON, November 1. The appearance of a French courier, at Lyons, has excited much speculation. It is stated, however, only to be bearer of a letter from Wurmsler, to inform the Emperor, that unless he is reinforced by powerful troops, they must surrender the important posts of Mantua.

LORD MALMSBURY'S EMBASSY.

From Le Mercur of the 28th inst. The negotiations scarcely commenced between Lord Malmsbury and the Minister for foreign affairs, are already suspended. In the conference it was demanded of the English negotiator, if he was furnished with powers and instructions from the other belligerent powers to stipulate in their name? He answered, no—but he added, that when the Directory shall have explained themselves on the principle laid down in this memorial, (we will give all the important papers relative to the present negotiation) he would dispatch a courier to give an account to the different powers of the state of the negotiation, and to receive their orders. It was then asked the ambassador, if he could not at least specify the nature of retrocessions which concern the French Republic and Great-Britain? He answered that after the Directory should have explained itself, he would expedite couriers, and would request instructions on this point. The following is the memorial of the Ambassador.

Memorial delivered to the Minister of the French Republic for foreign affairs, by Lord Malmsbury.

Great-Britain, desiring as he has already declared, to contribute as far as depends on himself, to the re-establishment of the tranquillity, and to ensure, by the means of a just, honourable, and solid peace, the repose of Europe, his Majesty is of opinion, that the best means of attaining, with the least possible expedition, that salutary end, is to agree, at the beginning of the negotiations, on the general principle which shall serve as a basis for the definitive arrangements. The first of the negotiation for peace, generally relate to the restitutions and cessations of hostilities, the respective parties have mutually to stipulate, in consequence of the events of the war.

Great Britain after the uninterrupted success of her naval war, finds herself in a situation to have no hesitation to demand of France, from which, on the contrary, she has received establishments and colonies of the highest importance, and of a value almost incalculable. On the other hand, France had made the conquest of Europe, conquests, to which his Majesty can be the less indifferent, as the most important interests of his people, and the most sacred engagements of his crown, are essentially implicated herein. The magnanimity of the King, his inviolable good faith, and his desire to restore repose to many nations, lead him in this situation to consider the means of procuring a general peace just and equitable for all the belligerent powers, and calculated to ensure in Europe, the general tranquillity. It is on this footing then, that he proposes to France, by offering to compensate France, for her proportionable restitutions, for those articles to which she will be called upon to restore, in order to satisfy the just demands of her allies, and to preserve the political equilibrium of Europe.

Having made this first overture, his Majesty will, in the sequel, explain himself in a more extensive manner, on the application of this principle to the different objects which may be discussed between the respective parties.

It is this application which will constitute the subject of those discussions into which his Majesty has authorized his Minister to enter, as soon as the principle to be adopted as the general basis of the negotiation is known.

But his Majesty cannot dispense with declaring that if this generous and equitable offer shall not be accepted, or if unfortunately, the discussions which may ensue, may fail in the desired effect, neither this general proposition, nor the more detailed which may result from it, shall be regarded, in any case, as points, agreed upon or accorded by his Majesty.

Signed, MALMSBURY. Minister Plenipotentiary from his Britannic Majesty. Paris, October 24, 1796.

Report to the Directory by the Minister for foreign affairs. The 4th Brumaire, (Oct. 25.)

The Executive Directory having furnished me with full powers to treat for peace with Great-Britain, I had yesterday (3d Brumaire) my first conference with Lord Malmsbury, Plenipotentiary commissioner of his Britannic Majesty. He presented to me the original of his powers sealed with the seal of Great-Britain, and certified the copy which he had before presented me unsigned; and which I had laid before the Directory. I reciprocally exhibited to him my powers, and gave him a certified copy—it was agreed, that the originals should be exchanged upon the definitive settlement of the articles, and before their signature.

We entered into discussion. Lord Malmsbury presented to me the memorial which I had before the Directory. I observed to him, that speaking in the name of the allies of Great-Britain, and stipulating for their interests, he was doubtless, furnished with their powers and instructions. He answered me, that he was not, but that when the Directory should have explained upon the principle laid down in his memorial, he would expedite couriers, to give to the different courts an account of the negotiations, and to receive their orders. I demanded of him, if he could at least, specify the principle of concession in what concerned the republic, and the government of Great-Britain. He replied, that after the Directory should have explained itself, he would send a courier, and demand instructions on this point. I then thought it my duty to say to Lord Malmsbury, that I would lay his memorial before the Directory, that I would take his orders, and impart to him its answer.

(Signed) CHA. DELACROIX.

ANSWER OF THE DIRECTORY.

The Executive Directory orders the Minister for foreign affairs to make the following answer to Lord Malmsbury.

The Executive Directory sees with pain, that at the moment when they had reason to hope for the very speedy return of peace between the French Republic and his Britannic Majesty, the proposition of Lord Malmsbury offers nothing but dilatory, or very distant means of bringing the negotiation to a conclusion.

The Directory observe, that if Lord Malmsbury would have treated separately, as he was formally authorized by the tenour of his credentials, the negotiations might be considered abridged, that the necessity of balancing with the interests of the two powers, those of the allies of Great-Britain, multiplies the combination, increases the difficulties, tends to the formation of a Congress, the forms of which it is known, are always tardy, and requires the accession of powers, which hitherto have displayed no desire of accommodation, and have not given to Lord Malmsbury himself, ac-

ording to his own declaration, any power to stipulate for them.

Thus, without prejudging the intentions of Lord Malmsbury, without drawing any conclusion from the circumstance of his declaration not appearing to accord with his credentials; without supposing that he had received any secret instructions, which would destroy the effect of his ostensible powers, without pretending, in short to assert, that the British government have had a double object in view—to prevent by general propositions, the partial propositions of other powers, and to obtain from the people of England the means of continuing the war, by throwing upon the republic the odium of a delay occasioned by themselves, the Executive Directory cannot but perceive, that the proposition of Lord Malmsbury is nothing but a renewal, under amicable forms, of the propositions made last year by Mr. Wickham, and that it presents but a distant hope of peace.

The Executive Directory farther observes, with regard to the principle of cession advanced by Lord Malmsbury, that such principles presented in a vague and isolated manner, cannot serve as the basis of negotiation; that the first points of consideration are, the common necessity of a just and solid peace, the political equilibrium which absolute cessions might destroy, and then the means which the belligerent powers may possess, the one to retain conquests made at a time, when they were supported by a great number of allies, now detached from a coalition, and the other, to recover them at a time, when those who were at first its enemies, have almost all, either become its allies or neutrals.

Nevertheless, the Executive Directory animated with an ardent desire of putting a stop to the scourge of war, and to prove that they will not reject any means of reconciliation, declare, that as soon as Lord Malmsbury shall exhibit to the Minister for foreign affairs, sufficient powers from the allies of Great Britain, for stipulating for their respective interests, accompanied by a promise on their part to subscribe to whatever shall be concluded in their names, the Executive Directory will give a speedy answer to the specific propositions which shall be submitted to them, and that the difficulties shall be removed, as far as may be consistent with the safety and dignity of the French Republic.

Signed REVILBERT LEFAYE, President. LA GARDE General Secretary.

After receiving this answer, Lord Malmsbury wrote to his court by an extraordinary courier, to obtain the powers required of him, without which it is evident he cannot act. Thus supposing that the British cabinet have not sent us a new answer, and that they are really anxious to take efficacious measures for giving speedy satisfaction to the Directory, the negotiations will at least be suspended for some time.

(Le Messager du Soir.) Doctor John Cunningham.

INFORMS the inhabitants of Edenton, and its vicinity, that he has for SALE, at his house, (at the upper end of Broad Street for the present) a choice parcel of genuine DRUGS and MEDICINES, among which are some RED and PINK BARK of a superior quality; all of which he will dispose of very cheap for cash, or the usual credit.

THE subscriber has received, by the brig Jenny, from Philadelphia, a small consignment of BOTTLED PORTER and PORT WINE, of the very best quality, in cases of two dozen each, which he will dispose of for cash, on very moderate terms.

NATHANIEL ALLEN. Edenton, December 21st, 1796. In the large WARE HOUSE, at present occupied by the Messrs. Binby's, to be licensed immediately possession given.