

LONDON, APRIL 10.

SIR JOHN MOORE'S LAST LETTER.

The following is the extract from the last letter of the illustrious and lamented General Sir John Moore, which so much stress has been laid upon in Parliament, and which has just been printed by order of the House of Commons:

CORUNNA, JANUARY 13, 1809.

"Situating as this army is at present, it is impossible for me to detail to your Lordship the events which have taken place, since I had the honor to address you from Astorga, on the 31st of December: I have, therefore, determined to send to England Brig. Gen. Charles Stewart, as the Officer best qualified to give you every information you can want, both with respect to our actual situation, and the events which have led to it.

"Your Lordship knows, that had I followed my own opinion, as a military man, I should have retired with the army from Salamanca. The Spanish armies were then beaten: there was no Spanish force to which we could unite; and I was satisfied that no efforts would be made to aid us, or to favour the cause in which they were engaged.

"I was sensible, however, that the apathy and indifference of the Spaniards would never have been believed; that had the British been withdrawn, the loss of the cause would have been imputed to their retreat; and it was necessary to risk this army, to convince the people of England, as well as the rest of Europe, that the Spaniards had neither the power nor the inclination to make any efforts for themselves. It was for this reason that I made the march to Sabagan.

"As a diversion, it succeeded: I brought the whole disposable force of the French against this army, and it has been allowed to follow me, without a single movement being made to favour my retreat.—The people of the Galicia, though armed, made no attempt to stop the passage of the French through their mountains: they abandoned their dwellings at our approach, drove away their carts, oxen, and every thing that could be of the smallest aid to the army. The consequence has been, that our sick have been left behind; and when our horses or mules failed, which, on such marches, and through such a country, was the case to a great extent, baggage, ammunition, stores, &c. and even money, were necessarily destroyed or abandoned.

"I am sorry to say, that the army, whose conduct I had such reason to extol on its march through Portugal, and on its arrival in Spain, has totally changed its character since it began to retreat. I can say nothing in its favour, but that when there was a prospect of fighting the enemy, the men were then orderly, and seemed pleased and determined to do their duty. In front of Villa Franca, the French came up with the reserve, with which I was covering the retreat of the army; they attacked it at Calcabelos. I retired, covered by the 95th regiment, and marched that night to Herreñas, and from thence to Nogales and Lugo, where I had ordered the different divisions which preceded, to halt and collect. At Lugo, the French again came up with us; they attacked our advanced posts on the 6th and 7th, and were repulsed in both attempts, with little loss on our side. I heard from the prisoners taken, that three divisions of the French army were come up, commanded by Marshal Soult; I therefore, expected to be attacked on the morning of the 8th. It was my wish to come to that issue; I had perfect confidence in the valour of the troops, and it was only by tripping the enemy that we could hope either to retreat or to embark unmolested. I made every preparation to receive the attack, and drew out the army in the morning to offer battle. This was not Marshal Soult's object. He either did not think himself sufficiently strong, or he wished to play a surer game, by attacking us on our march, or during our embarkation. The country was intersected, and his position too strong for me to attack with an inferior force. The want of provisions would not enable me to wait longer. I marched that night; and in two forced marches, by advancing for six or eight hours in the rain, I reached Betanzos on the 10th instant.

"At Lugo I was sensible of the impossibility of reaching Vigo, which was at too great a distance, and offered no advantages to embark in the face of an enemy. My intention was then to have retreated to the Peninsula of Betanzos, where I hoped to find a position to cover the embarkation of the army in Ares or Redes Bays; but having sent an Officer to reconnoitre it, by his report I was determined to prefer this place. I gave notice to the Admiral of my intention, and begged that the transports might be brought to Corunna. Had I found them here on my arrival on the 11th, the embarkation would easily have been effected, for I had gained several marches on the French. They have now come up with us—the transports are not arrived; my position in front of this place is a very bad one; and this place, if I am forced to retire into it, is commanded within musket-shot, and the harbour will be so commanded by cannon on the coast, that no ship will be able to lay in it. In short, my Lord, General Stewart will inform you how critical our situation is. It has been recommended to me to make a proposal to the enemy, to induce him to allow us to embark quietly, in which case he gets us out of the country soon, and this place, with its stores, &c. complete; that otherwise we have the power to make a long defence, which must cause the destruction of the town. I am averse to make any such proposal, and am exceedingly doubtful if it would be attended with any good effect; but whatever I resolve on this head, I hope your Lordship will rest assured, that I shall accept no terms that are in the least dishonourable to the army or to the country. I find I have been led into greater length, and more detail, than I thought I should have had time for; I have written under interruptions, and with my mind much occupied with other matter. My letter written so carelessly, can only be considered as private. When I have more leisure, I shall write more correctly; in the mean time, I rely on General Stewart for giving your Lordship the information and detail which I have omitted. I should regret his absence, for his services have been very distinguished; but the state of his eyes makes it impossible for him to serve, and this country is not one in which cavalry can be of much use. If I succeed in embarking the army, I shall send it to England; it is quite unfit for further

service until it has been refitted, which can best be done there.

"JOHN MOORE."

"To the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Castlereagh, &c."

NEW-YORK, JUNE 30.

CONGRESS.—We have been waiting two days for a mail from Washington, and at length are gratified with the receipt of last Monday's Intelligencer. As it is not possible to give speeches or even proceedings at length, the following summary must suffice.

The Jefferson party made an attempt to stop the laying out any more money on fortifications, and in the course of the debate they denied that the country was exposed to any danger by invasion from any foreign power. To this Mr. Dana very pertinently observed that if there was no such danger from an invasion as to authorise the erection of fortifications, "it was perfectly incomprehensible to him, on any principle of military or naval combat, how 100,000 militia could have been wanted."—The Jeffersonians, were defeated in their motion to strike out the sum reported as necessary, as has formerly been mentioned.

The next thing was a very sensible resolution introduced by J. G. Jackson, declaring in substance that the meaning of the former law which limited the compensation of a Brig. Gen. to 225 dols. per month, was clear and explicit, and only allowed 225 dols. per month notwithstanding the opinion of Cesar. A Rodney to the contrary. But he was so ridiculed by Mr. Randolph and exposed by some of his own party, that at length he rose begged his friend Mr. Holland for God's sake not to go on and he would withdraw the resolution, which he did.

When the engrossed bill concerning the naval establishment was read the third time, Macon rose, and very fairly attacked the new Secretary of the Navy, for his late report against the gun-boats. He finished by insinuating to the House that no reliance could ever be placed on any of the statements from the navy department.

The most interesting debate was that on the subject of foreign relations. On the bill to continue in force the non-intercourse Act, J. G. Jackson offered an amendment for the purpose of admitting into our ports the armed vessels of any nation whatever. Now it was but a few days ago, that this same knot of politicians proposed to exclude them all. I hope it will not be required of us, the poor ignorant people, who stand looking on with wonder to yield our unqualified approbation to both propositions. Mr. Gold moved to amend the amendment by substituting, instead of the word, "any nation whatever" the words "Great Britain" thus admitting the armed vessels of Great-Britain only. But this was taking Mr. John G. by surprise, and inevitably brought up a discussion of the present state of our affairs with both France and Great-Britain; which could not fail to turn out very much in favour of the latter. Mr. John G. was once more brought to a stand still as the jockies say, and withdrew his amendment altogether. This is what Junius calls I think "ridiculous motions, ridiculously withdrawn" for which Lord North was so famous.

Mr. Sheffey then moved an amendment providing that nothing in the bill should be construed to prevent any public vessel from entering the waters of the United States, belonging to any nation with whom commercial intercourse shall have been permitted. Against an amendment so rational, so desirable, so honorable to the liberality of the country one would have supposed, nothing could possibly have been suggested. And it certainly required no ordinary assurance in any man to oppose it. Nevertheless it was opposed from that quarter which so sedulously watches the interests of dear France. Eppes, Taylor and Rhea spoke against it. Varnum seems to have had a little more sense of shame, and therefore was afraid openly to oppose it, but he cunningly got rid of it by a side wind; he moved for the committee to rise, which was carried, and the house adjourned.

But one of the most singular things I know of, took place on the question respecting a contested election. Wm. Baylies is one of the federal candidates from Massachusetts, but the seat is claimed by one Charles Turner, jun. a democrat. A report was made and a debate ensued, previous to which Turner himself on the motion of old Findley, was admitted to take his seat, and he actually spoke and voted on the question. This may be parliamentary for aught I know, but it is the first time I ever heard of such a thing. After this I think, it will only be for the unsuccessful candidates to go down to Washington and claim their seats, and not only the whole complexion of the house may be changed, but the number of representatives may be double that allowed by the constitution. "Holt doubteth."

NEW-YORK, JUNE 23.

IMPORTANT NEWS.

Capt O'Conner, who arrived here yesterday, informs, that on the 16th of May, a Portuguese brig arrived at Madeira direct from Lisbon, in the remarkable short passage of 4 days, having left that place on the 12th ult. This brig came out with Dispatches, but nothing more had transpired, than that Lisbon had been well fortified, and that the inhabitants were under no apprehension of being disturbed by the entry of French troops. A vast number of gun-brigs and vessels of a light draught of water had been sent up the Tagus, to prevent the passage of the French army; which, with other defensive obstructions, rendered the place safe for the present.

Since writing the above, a respectable merchant of this city handed us a letter, of which the following is a copy:—It is from a correct source.

LISBON, MAY 16, 1809.

"Sir,—By a vessel arrived from Lisbon yesterday in 3 days, we learn that they were all in the highest spirits, and hopes of their success—that Sir Arthur Wellesley had marched at the head of a brave army that were encamped at Porto—they offered to capitulate, but Sir Arthur refused to come to their terms. Therefore, they have no other remedy left, but to surrender to Sir Arthur Wellesley's terms, as they had but three days provisions left.—They will not meet with that lenity experienced at the bat-

tle of Vimiera (or Cintra.) The English armies of Sir Arthur and Gen. Beresford were received at Coimbra, and the other towns, with every demonstration of joy. Troops and warlike stores were constantly arriving from England."

Register Office, Philadelphia, June 28.

Latest and most important intelligence from Spain.—We are indebted to a passenger on board the brig Expedition, Captain Turner, in 11 days from Lagaira, for the following intelligence.

Two days previous to the departure of the brig from Lagaira, accounts were received of the arrival of a schooner in Porto Cavallo, which left Cadiz on the 16th of May—at that date, all Catalonia had been evacuated by the French, and the patriots were in possession of Barcelona and Fort Montjuy. The French troops, who had been within twenty leagues of Seville, had retreated to Madrid.

The Ministerial Gazette likewise contained the pleasing intelligence of a severe engagement having taken place between the French and Austrians, in which the latter were completely victorious, the former having lost thirty thousand, killed, wounded and prisoners. Rumours were in circulation that Joseph Bonaparte had left Madrid for Paris.

JULY 1.

Extract of a letter from Havana, dated June the 8th. "Some days ago an English sloop of war brought in a French privateer schooner which has been committing depredations on our commerce for some time in these latitudes. Said prize had no commission, nor any other papers; consequently the prisoners are to be treated as pirates and hung. Two king's schooners have fallen in quest of another of these pirates, which we have had information is cruising off Chiarleston."

Committee of Vigilance of Havana.

On the proposal of the Deputies, the Count of Saldivar and D. Joseph Maria de Aenes this committee resolved at its session on the 9th inst. that public notice should be given—that the 20th of the present month is fixed as the permanent and final period for the embarkation of the French who are to leave this Island; it being understood, that such, as have not done so, shall next day be placed on board his Majesty's ship Olivia in this bay. And the inhabitants of this city are notified, that those who know of the said French being concealed, shall give information to the commissary of the ward in which the house is situated; and also the house keepers and inhabitants will take notice, that if they do not give information, as is expected from them, they will suffer the penalty due to their offence.

SAINT JOHN, July 10, 1809.

GLORIOUS NEWS.

Since our last we have received Halifax papers to the 30th ult. also Boston and New-York papers to the 1st inst. containing highly interesting and pleasing intelligence from the Seat of War on the Continent of Europe, which our readers will find in this day's Gazette.

From HALIFAX, JUNE 30.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT AND PLEASING.

A letter, with which we have been favored, from a young gentleman in Newfoundland to his Father in this Town—dated St. Johns, June 15th, contains the following very interesting extracts from London papers (received there by a vessel in a short passage from Greenock) to the 20th ult.

LONDON, May 18—20

"The German papers contain the 7th, 8th, and 9th Austria Official Reports. These admit, that the French had, in general the advantage, though not to the extent which their Bulletins have held out; and, if credit can be placed on the subsequent intelligence, received by way of Hamburg, the Archduke CHARLES has been eminently successful.—He is stated, after three days hard fighting, to have driven the Enemy thirty miles back, and to have killed and taken upwards of 40,000 of their troops. And, in Italy, the Archduke JOHN is said to have gained, on the 15th and 16th ult. a decisive victory over the French, who lost 8000 killed and 10,000 wounded; 20 pieces of cannon and three Eagles, were taken. The Austrians lost 10,000 men, killed, wounded and prisoners.

"JEROME BONAPARTE has issued a Proclamation, ordering the inhabitants of Westphalia, Hesse and Saxony, to be deprived of every offensive weapon—even of knives, forks, scythes, &c. &c.—This augurs well!

"In Spain, the cause of the Patriots has assumed a more favorable aspect than for some time past. The French are constantly marching off a great part of their army for Italy.

"The French in Oporto, it is believed, wish to surrender to the British; and, from an intercepted letter from General Kellerman, it appears that, owing to the Austrian war, he considers the situation of the French, in the whole of the Peninsula, as extremely critical.—The French General Loison, was killed in the streets of Oporto, by some Portuguese soldiers.

"A Messenger with dispatches to the Spanish Deputies arrived in town this morning. On the 21st ult. it was publicly notified at Seville, that a division of the Spanish army had taken possession of Alcantara, which had been previously evacuated by the Enemy.

"Warsaw, capital of Poland, upon the approach of the Archduke Ferdinand, has been evacuated by the French. The van of the Austrian army entered that city on the 19th ult.

"By an official dispatch from the Austrian General Taxls we learn, that the inhabitants of the Tyrol have, with the utmost enthusiasm, risen in favor of Austria, and have defeated the Bavarian troops in several engagements. Two Generals and about 12,000 Bavarians, have been taken prisoners."

POSTSCRIPT.

By the brig Queen, from Newfoundland, we have just received the St. Johns Gazette of June 15; and have also been politely favored with Edinburgh and Glasgow papers