

part of the world. The known fixed principle of our faithful Sovereign, to treat only in conjunction with his Allies, is sufficient to account for the transmission of the overtures to Spain, without recurring to rumour, devoid of authority, respecting matters which are hitherto impenetrably locked up in the breasts of Sovereigns and their Ministers.

An article from Venice of the 6th October states, that the Russian ships of war which for some time have been lying in the ports of Trieste and Venice, are likely to winter in those harbours, and that in the latter place several persons have lately been arrested on account of unguarded expressions which they made use of on certain political subjects.

The new Grand Vizier has ordered 40,000 troops, 25,000 of whom are organized and trained in the European manner, to march to the Danube.

It is intended to send out more men to Spain, both from this country and from Ireland.—The transports that lately failed from Portsmouth will return immediately to that place and to Cork, under convoy of two frigates, with a view to this object. From the circumstance of these being chiefly cavalry transports, it is likely that the new expedition will consist of that description of force.

NOVEMBER 21.

IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE FROM SPAIN.

We have been favoured with the substance of the official reports of the late actions in Biscay, as transmitted to the Spanish Government. They establish a very important fact, namely, that General Blake attacked the enemy on the 5th instant, and not on the 4th, as has been stated, and completely defeated them. The extent of his victory was not ascertained, as there are no later accounts from him than on the morning of the 6th, when he put the whole of his army in motion in pursuit of the enemy. They also dispel the regret which we felt in consequence of the rumour that 700 of the Spanish troops from the Baltic had been cut to pieces. There was not a regiment of these engaged in the battle of the 31st. They did not join General Blake's army until after its retreat from Bilbao.

ADMIRALTY-OFFICE, NOVEMBER 19.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Seymour, of his Majesty's ship Amethyst.

AMETHYST, Hamoze, November 15.

MY LORD,

I have the most sincere pleasure in acquainting you, that his Majesty's ship Amethyst, under my command, captured, on the 10th instant at night, the French frigate La Thetis, of 44 guns, and a crew of 330 men, who had served years together, and 106 soldiers, from L'Orient for Martinique. Being close to the N. W. point of Groa, she was seen a quarter before seven P. M. and immediately chased; and a close action began before ten o'clock, which continued with little intermission till 20 minutes after midnight. Having fallen on board for a short time, aften ten, and from a quarter past eleven, when she intentionally laid us on board, till she surrendered (about an hour,) the lay fast alongside, the fluke of our best bower anchor having entered her foremost main-deck port, and she was, after great slaughter, boarded and taken possession of, and some prisoners received from her, before we disengaged the ships.

Shortly after, a ship of war was seen closing fast under a press of sail, which proved to be the Triumph, which immediately gave us the most effectual assistance that the anxious and feeling mind of such an officer as Sir Thomas Hardy could suggest. At half past one the Shannon joined, received prisoners from, and took La Thetis in tow. She is wholly dismasted, dreadfully shattered, and had her Commander (Pinfun, Capitaine de Vaisseau,) and 135 men killed, and 102 wounded, amongst whom are all her officers except three. The Amethyst has lost 19 killed and 51 wounded, among the former, is Lieutenant Bernard Kindall, a most promising young officer, of the Royal Marines who suffered greatly; and that invaluable officer, Lieutenant S. J. Payne, dangerously wounded; the mizen mast shot away, and the ship much damaged, and leaky. No language can convey an adequate idea of the cool and determined bravery shewn by every officer and man of this ship; and their truly noble behaviour has laid me under the greatest obligation. The assistance I received from my gallant friend the First Lieutenant, Mr. Goddard Blennerhassett, an officer of great merit and ability, is beyond all encomium. Lieutenants Hill and Crouch, and Mr. Fair the master, (whose admirable exertions, particularly at the close of the action, when the enemy was on fire, the boarders employed, and the ship had suddenly made two feet water, surmounted all difficulties, are happily preserved to add new lustre to his Majesty's service. In justice to Monsieur Dede, the surviving Commander of La Thetis, I must observe, he acted with singular firmness, and was the only Frenchman on the quarter deck when we boarded her.

(Signed) MICHAEL SEYMOUR.

Admiral Lord GAMBIER.

N. B. Dimensions of La Thetis—Length, 162 feet; breadth, 41 feet six inches; 28 eighteen pounders (24 pounds English) on the main deck: 12 thirty six pounders (forty-two pounds English) on the quarter-deck; 4 eight-pounders on the fore castle. One thousand barrels of flour on board, besides her own stores. Inclosed is a return of the killed and wounded.

The Amethyst had 19 killed and 51 wounded—one mortally.—Among the killed was Lieut. B. Kindall; and among the wounded, Lieut. S. J. Payne, Marines.

We understand that information has been received of no less than eight French frigates having been put to sea, from different ports, in the last week. The object and destination are probably the same as those of the Thetis. We hope they will have the same fate. The French Government will use every exertion, and run every risk, to send out the West India Islands these supplies, without which, they cannot possibly hold out long. We trust the vigilance of our cruisers will render the scheme abortive.

The following is an extract of a letter from an Officer in Sir David Baird's army, dated Lungo, Nov. 2:

"We arrived at this place on the 31st ult. after a fatiguing march of four days from Corunna, through a coun-

try bare and barren in the extreme, and of course little suited to supply the wants of a large army. The poverty of the natives appeared rather to claim relief from us, than to warrant us in looking for any supplies from them. The rains fall in torrents, and I fear some of the second battalions, which are made up of very fine lads, but not seasoned, will suffer much in consequence. The stores of our Commissariat will require to be renewed to a very large amount, in consequence of the immense and unexpected expenditure occasioned by the circumstances I have mentioned. Tomorrow we march hence. Our route is through Conflantine, Nogales, Herreria, Villafraña, Ponteferrado, where we stop some days, and then proceed to Benavente, where we expect to meet the army from Portugal."

Sir David Baird and suite left Corunna on the 14th November to join his troops. The Cavalry had not commenced their march. The Prince's Regiment disembarked on the 10th. Our horse had so fine a passage that but two were lost.

The Oviedo Gazette of the 5th, mentions, that letters had been received from Villacayo of the 28th ult. stating, that on the 25th the army of the left, composed of the troops of Galicia and Asturia, fought a sanguinary battle, in which the enemy were defeated with very considerable loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, the latter were said to amount to 800.

A part of our troops from Portugal, consisting of the 71st regiment, arrived at Badajoz on the 28th ult.

Letters from Villafraña of the 24th ult. mention the great distress of the inhabitants of Barcelona, where a decree had been issued by the French Commandant, placing the inhabitants under the most severe superintendance of the Police.

The Court of Inquiry, whose proceedings will be found in our paper of this day, has already assembled—Sir Hew Dalrymple accuses Wellesley more strongly than the partisans of Sir Arthur had accused Sir Hew—He affirms (so far from any reluctance) that Wellesley actually precipitated the Convention of Cintra: THAT HE STEPPED FORWARD IN THE DISGRACE—That so far from acting under the strict obligations of military obedience to a commanding Officer, he was desirous to precede that Officer in affixing his signature to the instrument of disgrace—Kellerman reminded him that his place was next to Sir Hew,—a circumstance which he seems to have forgotten.

Including the wounded who have died since the arrival of La Thetis frigate, that ship is said to have lost 157 killed—and 100 wounded—a most dreadful slaughter indeed.

NOVEMBER 25.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

A Mail from Corunna arrived yesterday, by which we have received Spanish Papers to the 19th instant.

The accounts in the Corunna Papers, state, that the French have entered Burgos, and that a division of the army of Estremadura, consisting of 4000 men, which had advanced from Madrid in that direction, has been defeated, but with considerable loss on the part of the enemy, as well as on that of the Patriots.—The private letters represent the state of affairs as still more unfavourable, and assert, that after sustaining repeated attacks, General BLAKE's army was completely defeated, but not dispersed, as mentioned in some reports, and that the enemy, pursuing their successes, had advanced as far as Valladolid, on their way to Madrid. It was yesterday reported, that the advices received by Government fully corroborated those statements; but this is not the fact. Indeed, in respect to the extent of the disasters of the Spanish army, no intelligence has yet reached this country upon which implicit reliance is to be placed; and even the accounts hitherto received through the most authentic channels are confused and contradictory. Of the main fact of General BLAKE's defeat, we fear, however, there is very little doubt; but however deeply we may lament the event, we are far from considering the successes of the enemy as decisive of the contest, or as affording any just grounds of despondency in respect to its result.

The Corunna Mail was brought by the Lady Pellew packet which sailed on the 19th inst. She brings advice, that a fleet of transports, which sailed from Corunna on the same morning, were recalled, and were left by her in the harbour, with his Majesty's ship Tonnant and a frigate. It is inferred from this circumstance, that there was a probability of the return of Sir DAVID BAIRD's corps, in consequence of the defeat of General BLAKE's army, and that there might possibly be a necessity for re-embarking the troops.

LATEST FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE,

Received from Boston, by the Saint Andrews Packet.

LONDON, DECEMBER 2.

Dispatches have been received from Lord Bentick, and Mr. Frere. The contents were immediately published in the following

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

"It appears by dispatches received from Corunna, dated the 23d Nov. and from San Vincent de la Barquera, dated the 10th ult. that the account of Gen. Blake being defeated is confirmed. He was engaged in continual actions from the 4th till the 19th—On the 21th the Asturians having been worsted on the left, the French got possession of a height which covered the road on which they retreated, and they were thrown into great confusion, and Gen. Blake retired to Reynosa; but a French column appearing upon this road from Burgos, he retreated by Solo, to San Vincent de la Barquera. There, upon the 12th, he had collected near 20,000 of his troops, and the Marquis de la Romana had taken the command, and they would soon be in a state to advance again.

The French had occupied St. Andero and Santona, the former on the 16th, and the latter on the 20th. But by the exertions of Gen. Lenth, all the provisions, ammunition, and stores sent by this country, had been removed.

It appears that part of the army of Estremadura had been defeated near Burgos by the French; but there are no accounts of their having advanced beyond it. Gen. Moore

arrived on the 10th at Salamanca—General Baird was at Astorga."

LATER ACCOUNTS.

PORTSMOUTH, DECEMBER 1.

Captain Thompson, in the Bonne Citoyenne, has just arrived here, with dispatches from Corunna, which he left the 26th Nov. The dispatches state, that General Blake continued to retreat until the 24th, defending every inch of the way; and on that day repulsed the French, strong as they were, with considerable loss.—During the conflict, by some false movement, the Spanish troops from the Baltic, under Marquis Romana, were surprized, and after a bloody resistance, defeated, and the regiment of Catalonia cut to pieces. The Marquis preserved his Cavalry. On the 24th Gen. Blake, with 25,000 men, was at Cinta, about 40 miles N. W. of St. Andero. The communication between him and the centre army, under Castanos, is cut off, the French army being between them, whose head-quarters are at Valladolid. There are many fears for the safety of the centre army. The Prince of Peace's party in Spain is very strong, more so than was expected or thought of; and the patriotic cause looks desponding. Sir David Baird was at Astorga with his army, and Sir John Moore at Salamanca. They have not been engaged. It is thought to be Bonaparte's intention to prevent, if possible, the joining of the different forces into one body. The Marquis Romana now commands Blake's army.

In the Bonne Citoyenne, Capt. Gage arrived with dispatches from Sir Robert Wilson, at Oporto.—They are not favourable. The Portuguese party opposed to the Regency are very strong and turbulent. Sir Robert had clothed, armed, and trained 2000 Portuguese; and had with him three British regiments. [It may be information to some to state, that before the French were expelled from Portugal, the Bishop of Oporto was placed at the head of the Portuguese patriotic government. After the French were gone, the Old Government of the Prince Regent resumed its authority. This naturally created a division among the Portuguese; the patriots of the North were unwilling to relinquish their revolutionary government.—As new dangers increase their union will cement.]

Extract from the speech of the French Minister of Interior, delivered in the Legislative Body—Nov. 2.

"The war will henceforth consist in repelling, from ALL POINTS, the English commerce; in employing all the means calculated to promote that end.

"France has energetically concurred in the exclusion of the monopoly of commerce; she has resigned herself to privations which long habits must have rendered more painful.

"The ALLIES OF FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES, SACRIFICE with her, and with an equally GENEROUS RESOLUTION, their private conveniences."*****

HIGHLY IMPORTANT.

LONDON, DECEMBER 4.

We have good news from Spain.—The Spanish army of the Centre, under Castanos, has forced the Ebro at three points, and taken the strong French position of Caparrosa, with the heights around. The result of the battle was not known; but a letter from Madrid states, that on the 13th (Nov.) the battle continued; and a courier had been dispatched with the intelligence.—Other circumstances render it highly probable that the army of the Centre has obtained a decisive victory.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

"The Bonne Citoyenne, from Corunna, spoke the Minerva, which had been cruising off St. Andero. By her she was informed, that on the 19th, the French had entered St. Vincent de la Barquera, and that the Spaniards had retreated, after a sharp contest. On the 25th, a fresh battle is said to have taken place, and the accounts were, that, at the close of it, the Marquis de Romana was driving the French before him.

"On the 22d ult. Sir David Baird was at Astorga.—It was not believed that the French were at Valladolid in great force."

Though the information given in this Bulletin is very scanty; yet, if after several days fighting the Spanish army of the centre, should have routed the French in Navarre, M. Ney would then be obliged to abandon all the advantages he had gained over the army of Galicia, and the French at Burgos would probably be cut off, as they are reported to have been by some of our letters. As the Marquis of Romana's artillery is, however, stated in the Spanish papers, to have been removed to Leon, we do not consider the advantages he has obtained to be important, otherwise than showing the diminution of that part of the enemy's force, which had been opposed to him, the coullancy of his troops, and his opportunity for moving towards the point, at which Sir John Moore and Sir David Baird would add 30,000 men to his force; of which junction having been effected we have no doubt.

Numerous reports are in circulation.—The French are stated to have been repulsed from St. Vincent de Barquera, with great loss, and to have retreated towards Burgos; Austria and the Porte are said to have declared war against France, &c. &c. &c. All perhaps the offspring of idleness and falsehood.

SPANISH ACCOUNTS.

CORUNNA, NOVEMBER 26.

Two Spanish frigates, and several English vessels, have arrived here from St. Andero, with stores and wounded Spaniards from General Blake's army. They left that city, on the 14th in consequence of the defeat of General Blake, and the approach of the French. Preparations were made to blow up the powder magazines, &c. at St. Andero.

Letters from Castile say, that Castanos had defeated a body of the French, though this is mere report, the last letters from Madrid mention the arrival of good news as the post was departing. One thing is certain, that the public apprehension has decreased. The French has advanced into old Castile. Blake's army has sustained some distressing though not very alarming defeats. There has been no