

LONDON.

DOWNING-STREET, DECEMBER 25, 1810.

OFFICIAL

From Lord WELLINGTON, to Lord LIVERPOOL, dated Cartago, December 8, 1810.

MY LORD.—The detachment of the enemy's troops, commanded by General Gardanne, which had returned to Sobreira Formosa, have continued their march to the frontier, and by the last accounts had entered Spain.

I have not heard that this detachment had any communication with the enemy's troops on the left of the Zezere, from whom they were distant about 3 leagues. I understand that, having lost some prisoners, taken by a patrol and by a party of the ordenanza, which accompanied the Hon. Lieut. Col. Ponsoby, on a reconnaissance from Abrantes to the river Codes, they made very particular enquiries respecting the position of Lt. Gen. Hill's corps, and the means which the allies possessed of crossing the Tagus at Abrantes; and, having commenced their march from Cardigos towards the Codes in the morning, they retired about eleven with great precipitation, and continued their retreat in the same manner till they reached the frontier.

They were followed by the ordenanza, who did them much mischief on the march, and took much baggage from them. The enemy destroyed many horses and mules which could not keep up with them; and this march, if it was ordered by superior authority, and is connected with any other arrangement, had every appearance, and was attended by all the consequences of a precipitate and forced retreat.

No alteration of any importance has been made in the position of the enemy's troops, since I addressed your Lordship. I have, &c.

(Signed) WELLINGTON.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

DECEMBER 26. The Courier, in reply to a Chronicle paragraph on the subject, says, His Majesty's Ministers have not yet come to any determination on the subject of the Orders in Council. They have enquired of Mr. Pinkney for information, whether since the President's Proclamation of November 2d, has been communicated to the French Emperor, any American vessels, which sailed from the United States on the faith of that Proclamation, have been permitted to enter and dispose of their cargoes of colonial and other produce, in France, as they would have been allowed before the promulgation of the Berlin and Milan decrees? If those decrees are actually repealed, this must be the case; and if Mr. Pinkney's information is satisfactory the Orders in Council will of course be suspended.

NOTE.

What must be Mr. Pinkney's reply, when he receives the Duke of Cadore's report to the Emperor of the 8th Dec. last, in which he declares those decrees must be persisted in? All the evidence ever given that the decrees would be suspended on the 1st November, was a Note from the Duke of Cadore, and yet the world has seen, on the 8th December, this same Duke of Cadore officially stating that the decrees must still be enforced,—thereby shewing that his former promise was illusory. Yet there are those who pretend to information, who say the decrees have been revoked! It is nonsense in the extreme to prate about the repeal of the decrees as they regard the United States, and their enforcement as they respect Great-Britain. They originally were launched against Great-Britain, and in their operation to that end affected our commerce; they are still ostensibly fulminated against her, and will injure us as much as they ever have done. We repeat, the decrees were as much in force in December last as they were a year since; and when Mr. Pinkney receives Champagny's report of the 8th Dec. he must say so. Neither the Emperor, who so dearly "loves" the Americans, in his speech, nor his Minister in his report, make any exceptions to the operation of the decrees in favor of American commerce. Had they intended any, it is not probable they would have omitted to mention it;—and had they been sincere in the promise of a revocation on the 1st November, they would have made the British government officially acquainted with the fact—which they did not. Their sole object was to cajole the American administration; time will tell how well they have succeeded in it.—*Bos. Cen.*

LONDON, DECEMBER 20—26.

On the 13th inst. Parliament assembled; and again adjourned for 14 days. The party in favor of a Regency were very violent, and declared, that though his Majesty should recover, such was his great age, and the defect of his vision, that the Executive Government ought to be invested into a Regency. Sir Francis Burdett pronounced, that the Prince of Wales had a right to demand the reins of government; and Mr. Whitbread declared, that a person "subject to hurries could not be fit to wield the Executive Power." "If the throne be vacant," he added, "if the Royal Authority be extinct, happily there exists one to whom all eyes are turned for supplying the deficiency."

There cannot be any doubt of the establishment of a Regency shortly, probably at the next meeting of Parliament. The bill for this purpose will be prepared previous thereto; and it will certainly contain a clause for restricting the Regent from creating Peers. Though the nation, almost universally, has a high opinion of the good sense, amiable disposition, affection and loyalty of the Prince of Wales, yet they fear the influence over him of the evil Counsellors which may and probably will surround him.

THE KING'S HEALTH.

Windsor Castle, Dec. 26. His Majesty, since the abatement of his fever, has continued nearly in the same state. (Signed as usual.)

December 26. On Monday evening His Majesty

was seized with a severe and alarming relapse of his disorder. His bowels too were violently affected; and his pulse were raised to 120, attended with acute pain. At ten o'clock, at night, it was judged expedient to send an express to London requesting the immediate presence of the Prince of Wales at the castle, where he arrived between 4 and 5 o'clock. He found, that His Majesty had slept more than four hours, and that in consequence his disorder had in some measure subsided. His Royal Highness continued at the Castle the most part of the day.

Letters from Lisbon of the 8th inst. says that Lord Wellington had ordered some works on the left bank of the Tagus, to protect the shipping in that river, should the French cross at Abrantes, and come down the left bank, and seize the heights. These works can be made very strong, and render the attempt impracticable. Generals Hill and Fane are sick. Lord Wellington, in his official despatch of the same day, makes no mention of these orders.

PLYMOUTH, DECEMBER 24.

The Romulus of 44 guns, has arrived from Portugal, with French deserters; also, 14 transports, with French deserters, sick and wounded soldiers.

A few days since, Lucien Bonaparte and family arrived here in a frigate from Malta; and yesterday he sat out, with his Secretary, and suite, for the place of his ultimate destination. Madame Bonaparte, and the residue of the family, with two waggons of baggage, will follow in a few days.

DOVER, DECEMBER 25.

There has been a very severe gale of wind, which it is expected has done a great deal of damage to the shipping. The cliffs have absorbed so much wet that flakes of them have fallen down, and damaged several houses.

The Elize French Frigate has been destroyed on the coast of France, by the boats of the Diana English frigate.

SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, NOVEMBER 20.

War with England.

Yesterday Sweden acceded to the Continental System, and declared War against England. All intercourse has ceased;—English vessels are ordered to be seized; and all property which has been imported since April 26, 1810. The admission of colonial produce under any flag is prohibited; and no such produce can be exported. We hope these measures will accelerate a maritime peace.—*Official article.*

The London papers mention the above proceeding of Sweden as made at the express command of NAPOLEON;—that most of the English property had been re-embarked; and that but little resentment was excited against Sweden.

DENMARK.

COPENHAGEN, NOVEMBER 29.

His Majesty has ordered, that the declaration of the French government nullifying their American Certificates of origin, shall only operate against vessels taken after September 22.

FRANCE.

PARIS, NOVEMBER 11.

CONSERVATIVE SENATE, NOVEMBER 10.

REPORT

Of the Minister of Foreign Relations [CHAMPAGNY] to the Emperor and King.

SIRE.—"Your Majesty has raised France to the highest pitch of grandeur. The victories obtained over five successive coalitions, all fomented by England, have produced these results; and it may be said that for the glory, the power of the Great Empire, we are indebted to England.

"On all occasions, your Majesty has offered peace; and without inquiring whether it would be more advantageous than war, you considered, Sire, only the happiness of the present generation; and you always shewed yourself ready to sacrifice to it the most promising future prospects.

[CHAMPAGNY here enumerates, at great length, the various treaties of Peace which France had consented to conclude, and the great sacrifices she made in all of them; he then alludes to the "five" Coalitions, against France, which he says England had formed, and which France had broken; he then mentions the frequent offers of Peace made to England, particularly that offered by Russia and France; and in the course of the display passes a high eulogium on that "enlightened Man," Mr. Fox, who he says, "learned in Paris to know France and your Majesty." All these are detailed in the same style of language which has been used by the French cabinet for ten years, and which it would be wholly unnecessary to repeat, had we room, which we have not. He then proceeds.] Boston Centinel.

"In the meantime, England required the House of Braganza to quit the Peninsula, and fly to Brazil. The partisans of the English ministry sowed discord among the Princes of the House of Spain. The reigning dynasty was removed forever, and in consequence of arrangements made at Bayonne, a new Sovereign, having a common power and a common origin with France, was called to the government of Spain."

"The Orders issued by the British Council had overturned the laws of the commerce of the world; England, whose existence is wholly attached to commerce, thus cast disorder among the commerce of nations.—She had torn from it every privilege. The decrees of Berlin and Milan repelled these monstrous novelties. Holland was in a difficult position, her government had not an action sufficiently energetic; her Custom-house offered too little security, for the centre of commerce of the continent to remain much longer isolated from France. Your Majesty, for the interest of your people and to insure the execution of the system which you opposed to the tyrannical acts of England, was forced to change the fate of Holland.

"Notwithstanding, your Majesty, persevering in

your system and in your desire of peace, gave England to understand that she could preserve the independence of Holland, only by recalling her Orders in Council, or adopting pacific views. The Ministers of a commercial nation treated lightly an overture so highly interesting to their commerce. They answered that England could do nothing with regard to the fate of Holland. In the illusions of their pride, they misconceived the motives of that proceeding; they pretended to perceive in it the confession of the efficacy of their Orders in Council, and Holland was annexed. Since they have willed it so, Sire, I believe it useful at this time, and I propose to your Majesty to consolidate this union by the constitutional forms of a Senatus Consultum.

"The annexation of the Hanse-towns, of Louen-burg, and of all the coasts from the Elbe to the Ems, is commanded by circumstances. That territory is already under your Majesty's dominions.

"The immense magazines of Heligoland, will always threaten to empty themselves upon the Continent, if a single point should remain open to the English commerce upon the coasts of the North Sea, and if the mouths of the Jade, of the Weser, and of the Elbe, be not shut to it forever.

"The Orders of the British Council have entirely destroyed the privileges of the navigation of neutrals, and your Majesty can no longer supply your arsenals with provisions, and have a sure route for your commerce with the North, but by means of internal navigation.

"The repairing and enlarging of the canal already existing between Hamburg and Lubeck, and the construction of a new canal which will join the Elbe to the Weser, and the Weser to the Ems, and which will require but four or five years of labour and an expence of from fifteen to twenty millions in a country where nature presents no obstacles, will open to the French merchants a way economical, easy, and free from every danger. Your Empire may trade at all times with the Baltic, send to the North the produce of your soil and of your manufactures, and draw from thence the productions necessary to your Majesty's navy.

"The flags of Hamburg, of Bremen, and of Lubeck, which now wander upon the seas, denationalized by the British Orders in Council, will partake of the lot of the French flag, and will concur with it for the interest of the common cause, for the re-establishment of the liberties of the seas.

"Sire, As long as England shall persist in her Orders in Council, your Majesty will persist in your Decrees. Your Majesty will oppose to the blockade of the coasts, the continental blockade, and to the pillage on the seas, the confiscation of English goods on the continent."

"It is my duty to say so to your Majesty; your Majesty cannot henceforth hope to bring back your enemies to more moderate ideas, otherwise than by your perseverance in this system. There must result from it such a state of inconvenience to England, that she shall be forced at length to acknowledge that she cannot violate the rights of neutrals upon the seas, and claim their protection on the Continent; that the only source of her evils is in her Orders of Council, and that that aggrandizement of France, which will long excite her uneasiness and her jealousy, she owes to the blind passions of those, who, violating the treaty of Amiens, breaking off the negotiation of Paris, rejecting the proposals of Tilsit and Erfurth, disdaining the overtures made before the annexation of Holland, have given the last blows to her commerce and to her power, and conducted your Empire to the accomplishment of its high destinies.

"CHAMPAGNY, Duke of Cadore.

"Paris, 8th December, 1810."

LONDON.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, DECEMBER 27.

The House met, agreeable to adjournment.—After a short exordium, Lord LIVERPOOL moved, that the House go into committee on

THE STATE OF THE NATION.

This motion was agreed to, when

Lord LIVERPOOL in a very able and elaborate speech discussed the principles on which the measures he was about to propose on the subject of a Regency were founded and justified. He laid down the following as fundamental principles.

1st. That the political capacity of the King is always to be considered as intire.—2d. That a Regency is to be appointed and regulated according to the necessity of cases as it arises.—3d. That no person whatever can have any right to the Regency, except by the will of Parliament; and lastly, That there is nothing contrary to the constitution in imposing restrictions and limitations on the Regent.

In support of those principles he adduced the examples of the history of the nation, and opinions of the most able and illustrious Statesmen and Civilians of all the periods since the reign of the TUDORS. He then observed, there were two modes in which Parliament could proceed to execute them; one, by Addressing the Prince of Wales, requesting him to take upon himself the Government of the Country; and the other, by an Act of the Legislature with the Great Seal attached to it. This last he conceived to be the wisest, best, and most legal measure, and went into a long illustration of the preference. He then proposed,

That the House pass a resolution declaring the incapacity of the King to execute the government; which was put and carried.

He then proposed a resolution.

That it was the right and duty of the two Houses to supply the deficiency.

After a motion of Lord STANHOPE to amend the resolution, which was negatived without a division, and a