

Late European Intelligence.

LONDON DATES TO THE 13th MARCH.

LONDON, JANUARY 14.

The American Commodores, Baron and Bainbridge, who were acting as supercargoes on board merchantmen, have been taken by Danish privateers and carried into Sweden. The former commanded the Chesapeake in the affair with the Leopard; the latter is considered one of the best seamen in the American navy.

FEBRUARY 16.

A letter from an Officer on board the *Alceste*, dated Lessa, Dec. 8, received yesterday, mentions several particulars which were not before known, concerning the late brilliant action. Commodore MAXWELL, with the *Alceste*, *Active*, and *Unite*, fell in with a French squadron of three frigates, on the 29th of November, when, after a sharp fight, two of them were captured; and, had it not have been for the *Alceste* losing her main-topmast, the third would not have escaped. On board the *Alceste* 7 were killed, and 20 wounded; the *Active* sustained no loss, and the *Unite* but one. The prizes are the *Paulina* and *Pomone*. This is the first account of the capture of the former; but respecting the latter, intelligence has been received to that effect.—The prizes were fitting to send to Malta.

FEBRUARY 19.

LETTER OF THE PRINCE REGENT, AND LORDS GREY AND GRENVILLE'S REPLY.

(COPY.)

"MY DEAREST BROTHER,

"As the restrictions on the Exercise of the Royal Authority will shortly expire, when I must make my arrangements for the future administration of the powers with which I am invested, I think it right to communicate to you those sentiments which I was withheld from expressing at an early period of the session, by my earnest desire that the expected motion on the Affairs of Ireland might undergo the deliberate discussion of Parliament, unmixed with any other consideration.

"I think it hardly necessary to call your recollection to the recent circumstances under which I assumed the Authority delegated to me by Parliament. At a moment of unexampled difficulty and danger, I was called upon to make a selection of persons to whom I should entrust the functions of the Executive Government.

"My sense of duty to our Royal Father solely decided that choice, and every private feeling gave way to considerations which admitted of no doubt or hesitation. I trust I acted in that respect as the genuine representative of the August Person whose functions I was appointed to discharge; and I have the satisfaction of knowing, that such was the opinion of persons for whose judgment and honorable principles I entertain the highest respect.

"In various instances, as you well know, where the law of the last Session left me at full liberty, I have waved my personal gratification, in order that His Majesty might resume, on his restoration to health, every power and prerogative belonging to his Crown. I certainly am the last person in the kingdom to whom it can be permitted to despair of our Royal Father's recovery.

"A new era is now arrived, and I cannot but reflect with satisfaction on the events which have distinguished the short period of my restricted Regency. Instead of suffering in the loss of any of her possessions, by the gigantic force which has been employed against them. Great-Britain has added most important acquisitions to her empire; the national faith has been preserved inviolate towards our Allies; and if character is strength applied to a nation, the increased and increasing reputation of His Majesty's arms will shew to the Nations of the Continent how much they may still achieve when animated by a glorious spirit of resistance to a foreign yoke. In the critical situation of the war in the Peninsula I shall be most anxious to avoid every measure which can lead my Allies to suppose that I mean to depart from the present system.—Perseverance alone can achieve the great object in question, and I cannot withhold my approbation from those who have honorably distinguished themselves in support of it. *I have no predilection to indulge, no resentments to gratify, no objects to attain, but such as are common to the whole Empire.* If such is the leading principle of my conduct, and I can appeal to the past as the evidence of what the future will be, I flatter myself I shall meet with the support of Parliament, and of a candid and enlightened nation.

"Having made this communication of my sentiments, in this new and extraordinary crisis of our affairs, I cannot conclude without expressing the gratification I should feel, if some of those persons with whom the early habits of my public life were formed, would strengthen my hands, and constitute a part of my Government. With such support, and aided by a vigorous and united Administration, formed on the most liberal basis, I shall look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great-Britain was ever engaged.

"Your are authorised to communicate these sentiments to Lord Grey, who, I have no doubt, will make them known to Lord Grenville.

"I am, always, &c.

"GEORGE, P. R.

"Carlton-House, February 13, 1812.

"P. S. I shall send a copy of this letter immediately to Mr. Perceval."

FEBRUARY 15, 1812.

"Sir,—We beg leave most humbly to express to your Royal Highness our dutiful acknowledgments for the gracious and condescending manner in which you have had the goodness to communicate to us the letter

of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on the subject of the arrangements to be now made for the future Administration of the public affairs; and we take the liberty of availing ourselves of your gracious permission to address to your Royal Highness in this form what has occurred to us in consequence of that communication. The Prince Regent, after expressing to your Royal Highness in that letter his sentiments on various public matters, has, in the concluding paragraph, condescended to intimate his wish that some of those persons with whom the early habits of his public life were formed, would strengthen his Royal Highness's hands, and constitute a part of his Government; and his Royal Highness is pleased to add, that with such support, aided by a vigorous and united Administration, formed on the most liberal basis, he would look with additional confidence to a prosperous issue of the most arduous contest in which Great-Britain has ever been engaged. On the others of his Royal Highness's letter we do not presume to offer any observations; but in the concluding paragraph, in so far as we may venture to suppose ourselves included in the gracious wish which it expresses, we owe it, in obedience and duty to his Royal Highness to explain ourselves with frankness and sincerity. We beg leave most earnestly to assure his Royal Highness, that no sacrifices, except those of honor and duty, could appear to us too great to be made, for the purpose of healing the divisions of our country, and uniting both its Government and its people. All personal exclusion we entirely disclaim; we rest on public measures; and it is on this ground alone that we must express, without reserve, the impossibility of our uniting with the present Government. Our differences of opinion are too many and too important to admit of such an union. His Royal Highness will, we are confident, do us the justice to remember, that we have twice already acted on this impression; in 1809, on the proposition then made to us under his Majesty's authority; and last year, when his Royal Highness was pleased to require our advice respecting the formation of a new Government. The reasons which we then humbly submitted to him are strengthened by the increasing dangers of the times; nor has there down to this moment, appeared even any approximation towards such an agreement of opinion on the public interests, as can alone form a basis for the honorable union of parties previously opposed to each other. Into the detail of those differences we are unwilling to enter; they embrace almost all the leading features of the present policy of the Empire; but his Royal Highness has, himself, been pleased to advert to the late deliberations of Parliament on the affairs of Ireland. This is a subject, above all others, important in itself, and connected with the most pressing dangers. Far from concurring in the sentiments which his Majesty's Ministers have on that occasion, so recently expressed; we entertain opinions directly opposite: we are firmly persuaded of the necessity of a total change in the present system of that country—and of the immediate repeal of those civil disabilities under which so large a portion of his Majesty's subjects still labor on account of their religious opinions. To recommend to Parliament this repeal, is the first advice which it would be our duty to offer to his Royal Highness, could we, even for the shortest time, make ourselves responsible for any further delay in the prospect of a measure, without which we could entertain no hope of rendering ourselves useful to his Royal Highness, or to the country. We have only further to beg your Royal Highness to lay before his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, the expression of our humble duty, and the sincere and respectful assurance of our earnest wishes for whatever may best promote the ease, honor, and advantage of his Royal Highness's government, and the success of his endeavors for the public welfare.

"We have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) "GREY,
"GRENVILLE."

"To R. H. the Duke of York."

HOUSE OF LORDS, FEBRUARY 10.
CAPTURE OF CIUDAD RODRIGO.

Lord LIVERPOOL rose, in pursuance of notice, to move the Thanks of the House to Lord Wellington, for the capture of Ciudad Rodrigo. His Lordship, after commenting on the skill and valour of Lord Wellington and his brave army, concluded by moving the Thanks of the House to Gen. Viscount Wellington, for the skill, ability, and indefatigable exertions, and consummate wisdom manifested by him in the siege of Ciudad Rodrigo.

This motion was agreed to nem. dis. as were also motions of Thanks to Lieutenant-General Thomas Graham, second in command, and the other General Officers, and to the Engineers of the Royal Corps of Artillery, and the Officers of the Royal Artillery, and Portuguese Artillery; likewise an acknowledgment of the services of the Non-Commissioned Officers and Soldiers.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL took the opportunity, in the course of moving the Votes of Thanks, to pay a tribute to the merits of Major-General Mackinnon, who unfortunately fell at Ciudad Rodrigo; and to express a hope, that the monument to be erected to his memory would be as lasting as his fame.

The Thanks were ordered to be communicated by the Lord Chancellor.—Adjourned.

Under the embarrassment of the Spanish Government for their lost King, a new Candidate has made his appearance; the Portuguese Princess *Maria Teresa*, who is married to the Infant of Spain, *D. Pedro Carlos*, has been delivered of a son in the Brazils, and for this happy event illuminations, discharges of artillery, and other demonstrations of joy were to take place at Lisbon, in consequence of a public Order.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 27.

The Letters which Government have received from Lord Wellington, dated the 5th and 12th inst. state; that his Lordship's head-quarters were at Freneda; they contain no news of importance whatever.

Whatever arrangements may be deemed necessary will in all likelihood be settled to-morrow. It is probable Lord Castlereagh, accepting the seals of the Foreign Department, will vacate his seat in Parliament to-morrow. Mr. Yorke's successor is not known; report varies between Lord Melville and Mr. Wellesley Pole. We shall, perhaps, have positive information upon this subject to-morrow.

It was strongly reported yesterday, that Lord Erskine and Earl Moira had consented to support the Prince's Government—and that the Duke of Norfolk would accept the Blue Ribband. We gave the report as we heard it. Some persons this morning doubt the truth of the rumour, as far as it relates to Earl Moira—but are not disinclined to believe it as far as it relates to Lord Erskine. The latter had certainly an interview with the Regent yesterday afternoon. We suppose the Duke of Norfolk will have the Blue Ribband.

A mail from Lisbon arrived this morning.—Nothing of importance had taken place. Ciudad Rodrigo had been put in a respectable state of defence. Marmont appeared disposed to retreat beyond Salamanca. The guerillas were very active and successful. Lord Wellington had received information of the retreat of the French army under Bonnet from Asturias, but had some doubt of its truth. We have had the satisfaction, however, to announce the full confirmation of it on Tuesday, from the Corunna papers. The late Governor of Ciudad Rodrigo, with his Officers and garrison, had arrived at Lisbon, on their way to England, as prisoners.

The following is an official despatch from his Excellency Marshal General Lord Wellington, to his Excellency Don Miguel Pereira Forjas, dated Head-Quarters, Freneda, February 5:—

"The enemy has no troops on this side of the river Tormes.

"Notwithstanding I have received accounts from different places, stating that General Bonnet has evacuated the Asturias, which intelligence I before communicated to your Excellency, I incline to doubt the truth of these communications. It is certain that General concentrated his troops in Oviedo, between the 15th and 20th of January, and that Porlier has occupied Gijon.

"General Abadia put his army in motion on the 20th ult. in order to oblige General Bonnet to retire with his army from the Asturias.

"I hear that there is in the Gazette of Madrid, of the 28th of January, a copy of a letter from Marshal Suchet to King Joseph, announcing his entrance into Valencia, General Blake having been made prisoner, with 16,000 men.

"No movement of importance has taken place in the south of Spain."

LISBON, February 14.—In respect to the north of Spain, every thing remains in the same state. *The Asturias Gazette* says—

"We are assured King Joseph will arrive at Valladolid; that Marmont is expected there with 6000 men of the 30,000 they have demanded of Spain for the north.

LISBON, Feb. 11.—The prisoners, taken in Ciudad Rodrigo, have arrived in this City.—(*Lisbon Diary*.)

LISBON, Feb. 16.—Not a word of news.—Ciudad Rodrigo is again placed in a respectable state of defence, and our troops have, in general, retired.—Marmont, it is reported, proposes to evacuate Salamanca, *in toto*. He has already left that place with his army, and is now at Toro. Head-Quarters are at Freneda, where hunting, shooting, and private theatricals, are the order of the day.

A letter from Freneda, dated 4th Feb. states, that on that day Head-Quarters were at that place; it gives the following additional particulars:

General Bonnet had evacuated the Asturias, and arrived with 6000 men at Benavente.

The famous Mina having taken prisoners the garrison of Huesca, consisting of 1000 men, was, whilst conducting them towards Navarre, attacked, on the 11th January, by 3000 French, who attempted to release the prisoners; but his gallant division succeeded in completely repulsing them, with the loss of 1500 men in killed and prisoners.

In Catalonia the Patriots continue to obtain great advantages. The enemy's force in that province being far from respectable.

The Governor of Badajos has issued an order, that all the peasants who choose to work on the fortifications shall be paid 320 reals per day. The garrison of that fortress has evinced much dissatisfaction at being placed upon half rations.—(*Lisbon Diary*, 10th Feb.)

VALENCIA DE ALCANTARA, JAN. 31.—The enemy, who occupied points on the Tejo and banks of the Tuter, have lessened some garrisons, and entirely withdrew others.

Talavera has a very trifling garrison. The expeditionary division, commanded by Brigadier Morilla, on the 14th entered Ciudad Real, the enemy having previously abandoned it. The inhabitants received his troops as welcome guests, shewing that they remained constant in the principles of our just cause. Brigadier Morilla intended attacking the French garrison of Almagro on the 16th, but the French, informed of this design, arrived with great reinforcements, so that Morilla retired to Ciudad Real; but without other loss than that of three soldiers and eight horses killed, and five men wounded.—(*Telegrafo Portuguez*, Feb. 11.)

LISBON, Feb. 10.—We have no intelligence from the north of Portugal which indicates any movements of consideration. From Campo Maior, under date of the 6th, they write as follows:—"The French in Badajos are quite mad with the loss of Ciudad Rodrigo. The