

The St. JOHN GAZETTE.

St. John,
FRIDAY, JANUARY 6.

Just as this Paper was putting to Press, we received the Halifax Chronicle, of the 24th ult. from which we have copied the following important and interesting Advice:—

HALIFAX.

DECEMBER 24.

Last evening the ship Prince Edward, Captain Willis, arrived here from London. She has had 30 days passage from the Downs.

By this ship we have received London papers to the 15th ult.—The most prominent article of intelligence is the following Official Declaration of a

Spanish War!

From the LONDON GAZETTE,
NOV. 12.

At the Court of St. James's, the 9th of November, 1796, present, the King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS His Majesty has received information that divers unjust seizures have been made in the ports of Spain of the ships and goods of His Majesty's subjects, and that acts of hostility and unprovoked aggression have been committed by the ships of his Catholic Majesty, on ships and vessels of his Majesty and his subjects: His Majesty therefore, being determined to take such measures as are necessary for vindicating the honour of the Crown and for procuring reparation and satisfaction for his injured subjects, is pleased, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that general reprisals be granted against the ships, goods, and subjects of the King of Spain, so that as well his Majesty's fleet and ships, as also all other ships and vessels that shall be commissioned by letters of marque or general reprisals, or otherwise, by his Majesty's Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of Great Britain, shall and may lawfully seize all ships, vessels, and goods belonging to the King of Spain, or his subjects, or others inhabiting within the Kingdom of Spain, and being the same to judgment in any of the Courts of Admiralty within his Majesty's dominions, and to that end, his Majesty's Advocate General, with the advocate of the Admiralty, are forthwith to prepare the draught of a commission, and present the same to his Majesty at this Board, authorizing the said Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral, to will and require the High Court of Admiralty of Great Britain, and the Lieutenant and Judge of the said Court, his Surrogate or Surrogates, as also the several Courts of Admiralty within his Majesty's dominions, to take cognizance of, and judicially proceed upon, all and all manner of captures, seizures, prizes, and reprisals of all ships and goods that are or shall be taken, and to hear and determine the same, and according to the course of Admiralty and the laws of Nations, to adjudge and condemn all such ships, vessels, and goods as shall belong to Spain, or the vassals and subjects of the King of Spain, or to any others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, and dominions; and that such powers and clauses be inserted in the said Commission as have been usual, and are according to former precedents. And his Majesty's said Advocate General, with the Advocate of the Admiralty, are also forthwith to prepare a draught of a commission, and present the same to his Majesty at this Board, authorizing the said Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral, to will and require the High Court of Admiralty of Great Britain, and the Lieutenant and Judge of the said Court, his Surrogate or Surrogates, as also the several Courts of Admiralty within his Majesty's dominions, to take cognizance of, and judicially proceed upon, all and all manner of captures, seizures, prizes, and reprisals of all ships and goods that are or shall be taken, and to hear and determine the same, and according to the course of Admiralty and the laws of Nations, to adjudge and condemn all such ships, vessels, and goods as shall belong to Spain, or the vassals and subjects of the King of Spain, or to any others inhabiting within any of his countries, territories, and dominions; and that such powers and clauses be inserted in the said Commission as have been usual, and are according to former precedents; and they are likewise to prepare and lay before his Majesty, at this Board, a draught of such instructions as may be proper to be sent to the Courts of Admiralty in his Majesty's foreign governments and plantations, for their guidance herein, as also another draught of instructions for such ships as shall be commissioned for the purposes aforementioned.

Chatham, P.	Liverpool.
Dorset.	Macartney.
Portland.	Falmouth.
Westmoreland.	Steyning.
Spencer.	W. Pitt.

NOV. 14.

The London Gazette of Nov. 13, contains a series of letters from Capt. Anstruther and R. Craufurd, Esq. from the 17th to the 27th of October, giving detail of a

number of successive actions, obstinate and bloody, but fortunate on the part of the Austrians. The following is the last of the letters alluded to:

"Head-Quarters of His Royal Highness the Archduke Charles of Austria, Maffpach, Oct. 27, 1796.

My Lord,

"I have the honour to inform your Lordship, that in the course of last night Gen. Moreau's army retreated across the Rhine at Huningue.

The last of his rear guard was this morning still on the heights of Weiller, on which he had constructed a large and solid work; but, after a little skirmishing with the Hussars, they evacuated the height and redoubt before any Infantry could come up; and nothing now remains on this side of the river, but a few troops in a small Tete de Ponte, behind which is a kind of Horn-Work, lately constructed on the Island called Shueter Insel. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed)

ROBERT CRAUFURD.

Despatches have been received by Government from Gibraltar, which state, that on the evening of the 17th of October, the Spanish batteries, consisting of 350 pieces of heavy artillery were expected to commence playing against the fortresses, which, however, was in so excellent a state of defence, that not the smallest apprehension was entertained for its safety.

The garrison at Gibraltar, according to the report lately made, consists of near 7000 effective men. The Corps and commands are as follow: Garrison battalion, commanded by Col. Frazer; 28th Regt. of foot, Col. Paget; 37th, Col. Buchanan; 42d Col. Dixon; 70th, Colonel Moncrieff; and 100th, Major Napier; Colonel Marquis Huntly, being absent, with the artillery Bombadier.

Letters from Italy and Tyrol, down to the 22d ult. by way of Vienna, bring intelligence, that the Austrian General, Alvinzi, arrived at the Trieste on the 14th ult. and was preparing to march to the relief of Mantua through Friculi. Gens. Quosdarnovich, Hohenzollern, Provers, Pittoni, Subicht and Mitreski, commanded different divisions of his army; Mitreski had already advanced on the

Venetian territory on the 16th. Three English frigates, of 38—36—and 32 guns, had arrived at Trieste.

The Austrian army, under Gen. Alvinzi, had already penetrated to both banks of the Pianna on the 18th, and the want of Pontons had delayed his advancing farther against Buonaparte.

The Island of Minorca is reported to be taken by Sir John Jervis's fleet, assisted by the troops from Corsica.

Letters from Cologne of Oct. 28, state, that Gen. Hoche will probably obtain the command of the army of the North.

From Lepzig, Oct. 24, we learn, "The report of a speedy Peace between the Emperor and the French Republic, becomes daily more prevalent; and there is good reason to suppose that the Prussian Cabinet will take an active share in those important negotiations.

Letters from Tyrol of October 27, say, "The French are still masters of the southern parts of this country.

The troops who are shut up in Mantua with Field Marshal Wurmser, amount to 25,000. The fortress begins to suffer from want of necessaries. The besiegers are in want of heavy artillery. Gen. Alvinzi is using his best efforts to collect an army to raise the siege of Mantua.

The Spanish fleet has appeared off Toulon.

We sometime since stated that Moreau had retreated to Stockach and Freybourg, instead of retiring by Huningue, as it was supposed he would. In retreating to Freybourg his design was to recross the Rhine at Kehl and Strasburg, to protect those places, and perhaps to retain possession of the right Bank of the Rhine, in the Brisgaw. With this view he had marched as far as Freybourg. Here the Archduke attacked him on the 19th, and after an obstinate conflict in which the Archduke behaved with great personal gallantry, the French posts were defeated, and their army compelled to retire, with the loss of 2000 prisoners and probably about half that number in killed and wounded. MOREAU still entertained hopes of maintaining himself on the right bank of the Rhine, and posted himself advantageously for that purpose; but the Austrians having made dispositions to attack him on the 24th, he again retired, and

retreated across the Rhine into France on the 26th, still keeping possession of the strong head of the Bridge at Huningue, by which he secures a passage into Germany.

From the 18th to the 26th there seem to have been continual actions of posts, in which the Austrians generally had the advantage; but at no time, not even on the 19th did the French suffer a complete defeat.

The next object of the Archduke, it is said, will be the Capture of Kehl, in which he will probably succeed.

In the Hundfruck, the French have gained considerable advantages. It is said that the Austrian army is marching to relieve Mantua.

The Dutch Constitution is finished and laid before the people.

An army of 18,000 Spaniards will, it is said, co-operate with Buonaparte in Italy.

The Spanish Declaration of War against Great Britain, was received by the Dutch Convention on the 31st of October.

One very pleasing article of intelligence is, that the Dutch having fitted out a fleet under the command of Admiral Lucas, on an expedition against the Cape of Good Hope, (which was to have been joined by Richeri, had not Admiral Mann, kept him in Cadiz) they proceeded to that place; and soon after their arrival had the mortification to find themselves blockaded there by Admiral Elphinstone, who had received timely notice of their intention.—About the middle of August, finding no possibility of escape, they were compelled to give up their ships, and surrender themselves prisoners.—Their force is said to have consisted of, two ships of the line, one of fifty guns, three large frigates, two smaller vessels, a store-ship and about 1,900 troops.

It is said Lord Malmesbury has sent two couriers with important despatches to the Emperor.

A passenger in the Prince Edward, saw a London paper at Deal, of the 18th ult.—A paragraph in which stated, that 80,000 troops and 18 ships of the line were lying at Brest, preparatory to an intended invasion of Great-Britain, should the negotiation fail.

The French have long contented themselves with talk-