

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 28.

The Gazette of Saturday contains a list of the captures made to June 30, by the ships under the command of Lord Collingwood. They consist of three Turkish, three French, a Venetian and 15 Spanish vessels of different descriptions.

We understand from respectable authority, that the definitive answer of Government has been given to Mr. MONROE, on the subject of the differences with America; and that it expresses our determination not to relax in the smallest degree from the maritime code and naval rights, as they exist at this moment. The tight of search is maintained, as it respects seamen as well as goods, and no exception are to be made in the case of ships of war. A demand is also made of the American Government for an immediate repeal of the non-importation act.

The intelligence brought by the Lisbon Mail of the determination of the Portuguese Government to remove to the Brazils, rather than accede to BONAPARTE'S demand of a subsidy, gains considerable credit.

If it be true that the Royal Family have determined to adopt that measure, it is a resolution worthy of the spirit of their illustrious House.—They must see that compliance with this fresh demand would only be followed by other demands—and they know full well that submission never softens BONAPARTE.—The appointment of Gen. JUNOT, an old acquaintance, and the embargo laid upon the Portuguese shipping in the French ports, were not unknown at Lisbon when the packet sailed; they had also learnt that the Spanish troops encamped in the neighbourhood of Gibraltar, had broken ground, and that they had actually begun their march against Portugal. At these menacing appearances of hostile approach the English merchants, indeed the whole of those who compose what is called the English factory at Lisbon, have naturally taken the alarm; and many of them have already made large remittances to this country, and much larger are expected by the next packet.

We have seen letters of a very recent date from Bourdeaux, which state, that 15,000 French troops were on their march for Portugal, where they were to be joined by a Spanish army. If Portugal should persevere in their determination to resist the unjust demands of France, we trust that she will receive every possible assistance from this country. The plan of retiring to the Brazils has at least the plea of magnanimity in its favour, but for the execution of it Government would require a considerable force. The great mass of the population of Portugal could not witness the departure of the Royal Family and a considerable part of the national treasure without very strong emotions, which might lead to the most dangerous consequences.

Letters from Ceylon, dated the 7th of April, state, that some changes had taken place in the Ministry of the King of Candy, highly favourable to the British interest. The Prime Minister, the violent enemy of the English, has been discharged and thrown into prison, upon suspicion of a conspiracy against his master. The officers who fell into the hands of the Candians during the last war, have been treated with great indulgence, and it is hoped will shortly be released.

Another Decree of the Dutch Government, dated September 2, has been published. It adopts for its basis the Decree of the 28th ult. but it enhances upon every thing that rigour and strictness can enforce. Neither men nor merchandise can now be landed in Holland, to whatever country they may belong, if it appear that they come immediately from any British port. The communication between this country and that part of the Continent we may therefore consider as hermetically closed.

SEPTEMBER 30.

At Gottenburgh the Swedes cannot disguise the pleasure they feel at our triumph at Copenhagen. Their joy is unbounded, whether it arises from a feeling of satisfaction at the supposed disappointment BONAPARTE will experience (whom they consider as their most inveterate enemy), or because they have the less to fear from the Danes.

On the 14th inst., a considerable number of Swedes, who had volunteered their services to assist in navigating the Danish fleet to England, set off for Copenhagen.

Rumours have been circulated of a fresh plot meditated in India, against the British Officers. The following are the circumstances that have been mentioned:—At a feast given by the Lady of Sir J. Craddock, the Sepoys meant to murder our Officers. The plot was discovered by some persons who heard the wives of the Sepoys entreating their husbands to desist from their horrible design; in consequence of which, the ringleaders were taken into custody.

Almost all the private letters from St. Petersburg, by the last Mail, perfectly agree in stating that some difference has arisen between Russia and France. Not only are the Nobles dissatisfied with the Treaty of Tilsit, but the Emperor Alexander himself, it is said, complains of having been deceived by accounts pretended to have been received at the French head-quarters, stating the defeat of the Russians in battles that had never been fought. General Bennigsen, it is said, has published a memorial respecting the operations of the campaign before the conclusion of the treaty, in which he more than blames the appearance of Alexander at the camp, and the orders he insisted on being executed. He principally complains of having been ordered to cover Konigsburg after the fall of Dantzic, a measure which he declared impracticable, without weakening his centre, and exposing his army to the danger of being penetrated in that quarter by the enemy; but the orders of Alexander were imperative. A little time will shew whether there be any truth in these rumours.

OCTOBER 1.

An event has occurred in Poland which may possibly tend to derange a little that cordial union which the French *Exposé* represents as subsisting between BONAPARTE and the Emperor ALEXANDER. A division of French troops re-occupied Konigsberg, on the 15th ult. The following is the reason assigned for this very extraordinary movement, in letters of Aug. 29. from Memel. The French, in conformity with their usual practice, had imposed a heavy contribution upon this capital of Royal Prussia, of which the first instalment only had been paid, at the time they evacu-

ated it, in consequence of the Treaty of Tilsit. To secure the future payments, the Magistracy gave reverfionary notes, chargeable upon the city lands and revenues, which the inhabitants were to redeem, as they became due, by subscription or apportionments among themselves. The enemy, however, had no sooner turned their backs upon the town; than the inhabitants expressed their determination not to abide by the engagements which had been extorted from them. But, in this case, they reckoned without their host. The instalment not being paid at the stipulated time, the French faced to the right about, and re-entered Konigsberg, with the intention of enforcing, by a process very usual with them, the liquidation of the debt. Their presence, however, did not produce the immediate effect that was expected. At the time the last accounts came away, the reverfionary notes were not redeemed.

The following are stated to be the demands recently made by Bonaparte on the Portuguese Government:—First, the advance of a certain sum of money to France; secondly, the surrender of all the Portuguese fleet to that power; and thirdly, the closing of the ports of Portugal against the ships of this country. To the latter proposition the Prince Regent expressed his disposition to acquiesce, being in fact bound to do so upon the demand of Spain, according to the Treaty of Badajos, in 1801. But as to the first proposition the Portuguese Government stated to the French Envoy their absolute incapacity, from the state of their financial resources to comply with it; and the second proposition they entirely declined. Bonaparte, however, persisted in his requisitions, and the consequence is represented to be, the determined resolution of the Portuguese Government to proceed to the Brazils.

His Catholic Majesty Charles the Third, who died in December 1788, at Madrid, declared, during his illness, that he firmly believed the Spanish dominions would become tributary to, if not totally subjugated by, the Government of France, in the course of twenty years; the time of the prophecy has little more to elapse than a twelvemonth.

It is singular that the number of men of war taken at Copenhagen, are the same that were in the harbour of the Havannah, at the time they surrendered to Sir George Pocock, the 12th of August, 1762.

Letters from some Officers, dated off Copenhagen, the 17th September, state the whimsicalities of our eccentric seamen, who not knowing the Danish names of their men of war surrendered to our arms, when asked what ship they are going to fit out of the Danish fleet? humouredly say.—Why, the *Young Prince of Wales*, the *Young Alfred*, the *Young Pompey*, and so on of every ship in the Danish navy, with an application to the name of the British man of war they belong to.

Great hopes are still entertained by Government that Mungo Parke, the enterprising researcher after the course of the River Niger, may still be living, and effect the important object of his laudable mission.

In the harbour of Flushing there are, at this time, seven line of battle ships, completely ready for sea, and only in want of men to navigate them.

Several Cabinet Councils have been lately held on the subject of the intended invasion of Portugal by the French or Spaniards, or both. The Portuguese Government, we understand, had once determined to defend the country as long as possible, and with that view had applied for assistance to England. This it has not been found convenient to afford, to such an extent as would hold out any prospect of effectual resistance.—The answer of our Government is stated to have been, that in the present state of Europe, and with the demands which Great-Britain has upon her for her own defence, it would be impossible for her to spare any considerable portion of her land forces, but that a powerful fleet should be at the disposal of the Portuguese Government either for the defence of Lisbon or for the purpose of conveying the Court and army to the Brazils, in case such a measure should be found necessary. The defence of a country depends as much upon the spirit of its population as the discipline of its army; but unfortunately for Portugal, her sons are not of a warlike cast, and her military establishment is the weakest and worst organized in Europe. She was unable to contend with Spain last war; how can she be expected to oppose both Spain and France now? If the former was the only enemy which Portugal had to fear, a very small portion of our army would, in addition to her own means, be sufficient for her defence; but no force that we could spare would enable her to hold out against such an army as Bonaparte could send against her.

A considerable number of vessels trading between the various ports of the enemy, contrary to the order of the British Council, have been detained at Malta. A list, containing the names of twenty-two, chiefly consisting of Americans and Danes, has already been received, and was on Friday exhibited in the usual place at Lloyd's. They were detained between the 1st of June and the 2d of August.

By the latest accounts from Algiers, we learn that a treaty has been concluded with the Regency of that country, by which the exclusive right of the trade of the ports of Bona, La Cala, and El Col, has been ceded to the British, for the exportation of hides, wool, wax, and 7500 fanegues of wheat annually. The Dey has also ceded the Coral fishery on the coast to the English.

A promotion of Flag Officers is expected to take place immediately; the new list of Rear-Admirals to include the Hon. Capt. Stopford.

Government, it is said, has determined to make the Island of Curacao the grand depot of military stores and provisions in the West-Indies. The troops, on their first arrival from Europe, are also to be quartered there, until they become seasoned to the climate. This is a very judicious arrangement, as Curacao is the healthiest of all the Islands, indeed considered the Montpellier of the West-Indies.

OCTOBER 9.

With the dispatches brought to Government on Wednesday from Petersburg, a number of private letters were received. By these we learn, that the intelligence of the surrender of the Danish fleet to the British forces, was first communicated in that city by an American Captain; and the circumstances being exaggerated, the exchange upon

England fell from thirty to twenty four. Subsequently, official advice, however, informed the Russian Government of the real object of the expedition, and the actual situation of affairs; in consequence of which the exchange recovered to 24½ and 25. It is stated in one of the letters, that a Courier had arrived from France with a dispatch from Buonaparte, in which he complains of the tardiness of the Emperor Alexander, in the performance of many of the secret Articles of the Treaty of Tilsit; assuring him at the same time, that French troops could not be removed from Poland until all the stipulations of that treaty were fully performed. In all private companies the Treaty of Tilsit is condemned, and the framers of it spoken of in terms of strong disapprobation. On one occasion, the company consisting of many of the Russian Nobles, among whom was Count Stroganoff, the conversation turned on the subject of the Treaty, and the Emperor had his full share of the blame. This conversation was communicated to Alexander, who immediately sent for the Count, and questioned him as to the fact, charging him at the same time honestly to report to him the truth.—"Sire," said the Count, "it is true; and such remarks are not confined to a few, but common to every company, formed of good Russians, throughout the Empire."

On Monday last, a Messenger set off to Copenhagen, with dispatches and instructions for Mr. Merry.

GOTTENBURGH, SEPT. 25.—Our Copenhagen business is in a very unfinished state. I am told, from good authority, that the Crown Prince will not even look at the Capitulation; and as he refuses to ratify it, it is thought that our forces will not evacuate Zealand so soon as was expected. The stores found in the dock-yard are immense; it is said that 40 of our vessels are laden with sail cloth only.—The men of war are laden like merchantmen. The Russians are most discontented with the peace, and the report which we had some time since of the Nobles having offered to maintain at their own expence 200,000 men in the field, seems to be confirmed. We have taken Flekoe, in Norway, by storm; the harbour is a very fine one, and very safe for our ships to shelter in. In blowing up the fortifications we lost a Lieutenant and four men. The messenger arrived yesterday from Vienna, but he brings no news.

OCTOBER 10.

The Court of St. Petersburg, it is said, has been required by France to shut her ports against all commercial intercourse with this country. Notwithstanding the unauthorised shape in which this intelligence appears, it is not to be peremptorily rejected. It is not impossible that some prospective engagement of this kind might have been entered into at Tilsit, dependent upon and referring to the intended offer of mediation by the Emperor ALEXANDER. The continuance of the commercial intercourse might have been made to depend upon the acceptance of that mediation upon the basis dictated by BONAPARTE, and communicated by the Emperor of RUSSIA.

Yesterday a Cabinet Council was held at the Secretary of State's Office, which was attended by all the Members in town, and also by Sir Arthur Wellesley. The Council was sitting at the time of the arrival of Captain Gordon, who attended it with the dispatches he brought from the Mediterranean.

By the *Serapis*, arrived at Portsmouth from the Mediterranean, Government have received dispatches from Admiral Lord Collingwood. They were brought to town yesterday afternoon by Capt. Gordon. Their contents have not publicly transpired, but we are inclined to think they are not of any material importance.

The Hon. Captain Woodhouse is appointed to command the *Gumberland*, of 74 guns, recently launched at Northfleet.

The Quarterly Dividend becomes due this day, and we hear it will begin to be paid to the Bankers on Monday, and to the Public in general on Tuesday next. This is very speedy, and does great credit both to the Exchequer and the Bank.

Considerable sensation has been produced by the rumour of an immediate war with Russia. It was said, that the dispatches brought by Mr. Hunter required that we should instantly restore the Danish navy, and evacuate the Island of Zealand. It is hardly credible that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg would venture to assume so high a tone towards this country. The late Emperor Paul, indeed, in some of his paroxysms, might possibly have reached such a pitch of extravagance, but his successor is too well acquainted with the strength and firmness of England to hazard any such proposal. This is an occasion upon which we think the Russian Government will not even venture to remonstrate. We have more than once stated our reasons why we think there is no fear of our being involved with Russia.

Some neutral vessels have arrived from Holland within these two days, but they have brought neither letters nor papers. The master of one of these reports that all the vessels detained in the Texel were, on the 25th, ordered to proceed for Amsterdam. On the following day, however, fresh orders respecting them arrived, and the Naval Commander directed them to remain where they were. It would appear, from this indecision, that the Dutch Government was somewhat embarrassed about enforcing the late decree. Hopes were entertained that the vessels would ultimately be permitted to sail to their respective destinations. One of these vessels failed so late as the 23d inst. and had on board letters and papers to that date; but falling in with an English vessel, which the Captain mistook for an enemy's privateer, he threw all his packets of letters and journals overboard.

Letters of the 11th ult. from St. Petersburg, mention, that one of our frigates, which had approached Cronstadt, had been warned not to come within range of the batteries; and that 30,000 of the army which was on its return from the Polish frontier had been ordered thither.

An article in the last Gottenburgh Mail contains the following statement of the reported plan of dismemberment of a part of the Turkish Empire:—

From the *Maine*, September 1.—According to report the Porte is to cede to Russia, Bessarabia, Moldavia, and Wallachia; to Austria, Little Wallachia, Upper Bulgaria, Servia, and Bosnia; and to France, the whole of Albania, the Peninsula of Morea, and the Isle of Candia. The