

Lord Melville, on his way to visit Mr. Pitt at Walmer, stopped at Commissioner Hope's, at Chatham; a circumstance which gave rise to general report there that his Lordship had succeeded Earl St. Vincent, as First Lord of the Admiralty, and was come to forward the naval equipments. It is finally settled that squadrons of observation shall sail with all possible dispatch to take their stations off the French and Batavian ports, in which the most considerable armaments are carrying on.

MARCH 25.

Dispatches, we understand, were received this morning both by Lord Hawkebury and General Andreossi.

It is not probable that the objections which the Emperor has, on a sudden, advanced against the indemnities, will lead to any serious consequences—Austria cannot feel any cordiality towards France, but this perhaps is not the time for her to disclose her real sentiments. There are some persons who will scarcely be persuaded, that the two Courts of London and Vienna did not act in concert, for the objections so unexpectedly urged by the Imperial Minister at Ratibon, were made on the very day on which His Majesty's Message was sent to both Houses of Parliament.

APRIL 3.

The French papers still continue their strictures on what passes in our Parliament. "The late debates in the English Parliament (they observe), must now fix the attention of all Europe. A faction, ambitious of honours, and greedy of money, are taking measures for overturning the Administration that has concluded peace, because they fondly hope that on a renewal of hostilities they may meet with some opportunities favourable to the promotion of their ambition.—If this faction was composed only of such vain and restless men as the Windhams, the Temples, and the Grenvilles, the inconsistency discoverable in their speeches might serve as an antidote to the frenzy of their projects; but the party whose views they are promoting, has attached to it men more cautious and circumspect, and therefore more dangerous.—In their speeches they make frequent mention of the interest of Europe; the interest of England swells all their pompous periods; and the British nation, imposed upon by this political quackery, will soon look to war as the only means of securing their glory and safety, though war must prove equally fatal to their safety and their glory. But who has overturned the political equilibrium of Europe? Previous to the French revolution, England had three powers who rivalled her commerce and her navy, to wit, France, Spain, and Holland. Whether from accident or treachery, all the forces of these countries are now centered in the hands of England. All the ships of Europe collected together would now be inadequate to dispute the liberty of the seas with the British navy. And is not this the true sense in which it may be said, that the political equilibrium of Europe is broken!"

One of our modern Philosophers, who is very vain and pedantic, lately dined with the Earl of Guilford and a large party, and undertook to answer any question in Natural Philosophy. Said his Lordship, "I will go no farther than my plate to puzzle you: Here is a *foal*; now tell me the reason why this fish, which has always lived in salt-water, should come out *fresh*?" The laugh was completely against the *filent Philosopher*!

APRIL 4.

It is confidently reported, that in a Cabinet Council held on Friday evening the *ultimatum* of our government was dispatched to Paris. The Council sat at Lord Chatham's house, and continued its deliberations to a late hour.

This morning arrived a Batavian mail.—The opinion respecting the issue of the negotiations is so very fluctuating at Amsterdam and Rotterdam, that the Funds rise and fall alternately, without any apparent cause.

It would seem from the following letter, dated the Hague, March 29th, that the Cape of Good Hope is no longer in the possession of British troops:—"The Batavian government has received intelligence from its Ambassador in London, that although a Cabinet order of the 14th of October was dispatched to the commanding Officer at the Cape, to suspend the evacuation of that place till further orders, and which had the consequences already known, another order of the Cabinet had been made up to the 16th of November succeeding, containing definitive orders for the evacuation of the Cape, which order went from England on the 20th; so that the Cape has now been for some time in the hands of the Batavian government."

Dispatches were on Saturday received from Paris by Lord Hawkebury and General Andreossi. A report prevails in the best informed circles that the present differences between this country and France are finally referred to the decision of the Emperor Alexander. Upon a subject conducted with so much secrecy, it is impossible to speak with the least certainty; but judging from the relative situation of both powers, and the necessity they mutually have for the permanence of peace, we look with ardent hopes to the prompt and satisfactory issue of negotiations.

Our Portsmouth correspondent states, that Lord Nelson is to hoist his flag on board the Amphion frigate, in which ship his Lordship is to sail, to take the command on the Mediterranean station.

APRIL 5.

We are concerned to state the loss of His Majesty's ship *Determiner*, of 28 guns, commanded by Captain BECHER. With some other frigates she was conveying the 31st regiment to the Island of Jersey, and not having a proper pilot on board, she unfortunately struck on a sunken rock a little distance from Noirmont Point in that Island, on Saturday the 26th ult. about four o'clock, and in about fifteen minutes she filled. The boats from the other men of war and the shore were actively employed in saving the people, but though every possible exertion was made, we are concerned to say that about forty lives were unfortunately lost. Out of these, ten were soldiers, two women and three children—all the rest were seamen.—The *Determiner*, we understand, lies with her broadside on the rock, and at low water part of her quarter deck and her masts, were visible two days after. As the weather was favourable, hopes were entertained of saving a part of her, &c. for which purpose boats were employed.

Eighty-six casks of foreign silver coin and bullion were imported by the last *Hamburgh* packet; hence we find the Chief Consul cannot prevent us from receiving specie from the Continent, though he may embarrass its exportation from France.

The Emperor Alexander is to visit the Crimea in the month of June, and afterwards to take a tour through several Provinces of his dominions which he has not yet seen;

Yesterday arrived two mails from Lisbon, by which we have received letters stating the alarm excited throughout that country, in consequence of His Majesty's message relative to the differences subsisting with France. The instant the message was made public at Lisbon, great consternation prevailed. The credit of the State felt an immediate and violent shock. The Government paper, which maintained itself without any difficulty at three and an half per cent. fell instantly to 10.

It was not until the 11th instant that General Lafnes landed at Lisbon. He arrived on board a frigate from Rochefort. The accounts formerly received of changes in the Portuguese Ministry, in consequence of his return, were premature; but some changes are certainly in contemplation. Don John d'Almeida it is said is to exchange the War Department and that of foreign affairs, which he held, for the Marine and ultra Marine Department. He is to be succeeded by the Viscount of Anadia, who presided over the latter branch of the public service.

Maniquy, who gave so much offence to Lafnes at the Custom-House, is to be removed from the superintendence of the Customs and Police to some less conspicuous office.

We learn that Lafnes is much displeased that Don John d'Almeida is not altogether dismissed. Our letters reach to the 19th ult.

APRIL 7.

Letters from Berlin of great credit state, that one of Duroc's objects was to prevail on the King of Prussia to seize *Hamburgh*, for the purpose of completely excluding the commerce of England from that port, and from Germany: Duroc said too, that if the King of Prussia would not do so, and (it is added) likewise seize on Hanover, the First Consul would send troops to do so. To this it is stated, that the Cabinet of Berlin replied, that his Prussian Majesty was resolved to observe the most perfect neutrality, and, if necessary, draw a cordon of troops round the former line of demarcation, and defend the neutrality of the north.

Other accounts of a more doubtful nature state, that Bonaparte has declared that, if a war with England takes place, he is determined to have none but friends or foes.

A report is circulated at Amsterdam, that the Dutch Government is soliciting the mediation of one of the first Powers of the North, to obtain leave to observe a strict neutrality, in case war should again break out between France and England.—There is no chance that the Dutch will be successful.

MONTHLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

FOR APRIL, 1803.

The state of trade has been, during last month, deeply affected by the alarm of a renewal of war between Great Britain and France. The effect of this alarm is more to be regretted, as it is felt by the Manufacturer and the merchant. The prices of West-India produce have begun to rise both in Britain and in France. Speculations of different sorts, in trade, begin to be hazarded in the prospect of a war.—The wonted course of orders to manufacturers, and of the engagements natural in trade, during a peace, begin to be interrupted. Various undertakings for canals and other works of public improvements are left suddenly at a pause, because money is not now easily to be raised for carrying them on. The applications of different classes of manufacturers, and merchants, to Parliament, for relief from taxes, which they thought injurious to their respective businesses, are now either suspended for a time, or are at least more hopeless of success, than before the rumour of the war was renewed.

A Bill for renewing the restriction to prevent the Bank of Ireland for a limited time from making payments in coin, is now before the House of Peers. A desire has been expressed, that, for the sake of equalizing the Exchange, that Bank should, however, be permitted, by a clause in the Bill, to make its payments in notes of the Bank of England. A new schedule of the duties on commodities of trade and manufacture in Ireland had been prepared by the Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer; but, as the variations in it were very numerous, and as it involved the imposition of some additional duties on certain articles, it has been, by the earnest opposition of some of the Gentlemen of Ireland in Parliament, laid aside till the wishes of the merchants and manufacturers of that country can be more fully consulted upon it; and the rates of the customs and duties of Ireland, remain, for this year, precisely such as they were during the last.

The whole tonnage of the shipping employed in the year 1802, in both the Greenland and the Southern Whale fisheries, was 34,701 tons in 118 vessels, navigated by 4045 men. The tonnage employed in the same fisheries in 1790 exceeded 46,000 tons, and gave employment to between 5 and 6000 seamen. A considerable number of ships have already failed to the Whale fishery in Davis's Straits from Hull, Whitby, Sunderland, and New-castle.

The total sum of the precious metals imported from the mines of America into Europe has been lately estimated in France at a million of millions of livres.

The value of the exports from the United States of America was in 1800—1,93,020,513 dollars; the value of the similar exports in 1801—2, did not exceed 71,957,144 dollars: Such have been the effects of the Peace on the trade of America.

NOTICE.

THE Co-Partnership of JENNINGS and LAKE will be dissolved by mutual consent on the 1st of July next: And it is their earnest request, that all those indebted to them, will make payment by that period, so that they may be enabled to pay their just debts.

JENNINGS & LAKE.

SAINT JOHN, 28th MAY, 1803.

(NEW-BRUNSWICK.) SAINT JOHN, May 28, 1803.

Last Monday arrived here the Ship *Adriatic*, Captain Ford, from London—She left the Downs the 7th April.

Thursday evening Schooner *Phoebe*, Capt. Fowler, from Windfor.—By the *Phoebe* we have been favored with the *Halifax Chronicle* of Saturday last, from which the following is copied:

HALIFAX, MAY 21.

This morning, about half past ten o'clock, arrived the Ship *Harpooner*, Captain Lamb, in 24 days from Portsmouth, Eng. having on board the following officers and recruits—viz.

Capt. Edwards, Lieut. Jaques, and 31 men, for the 6th Regiment.

Lieutenants Nestor and Stopford—Ensign Smith, and 52 men, for the 29th Regiment.

Lieutenants Taitan and Halfall; Dr. Korb, and 20 men, for the 41st Regiment.

Lieutenants Dennis and Williams, and 50 men, for the 49th Regiment.

Lieutenant Figg, of the Royal Engineers.

When this Ship left Portsmouth, public affairs remained in the same uncertain state; negotiations were still said to be going on—and every preparation making for actual hostilities.

The French have marched considerable bodies of men into the Batavian Republic, to secure their interest in that quarter:—They have a strong force in Bergen-op 7 oom; and have taken possession of the towns of Flushing, Middelburg, Veere, and several other places:—And a small squadron of English ships has been sent to block up the vessels destined for the French expedition to Louisiana:—So that the Poor Dutchmen appear to be hemmed in on all sides—both by land and sea.

Gen. Victor, and the other French officers, for New-Orleans, have sold all their stock intended for the voyage—which thus appears to be given up, for the present.

M. De Bully, has been sent by the new Grand Master of Malta, to Sir Alexander Ball, to demand the restoration of that Island—This, the *Monitor* states, was declined by that officer, until he should receive instructions to that effect from Great-Britain.

One of the latest papers, says,—“There never were greater exertions made than at the present moment, by the officers and artificers of the different Dock-Yards, in getting ships ready for service!”

Bonaparte has made a demand of a loan of 20,000,000 of dollars from the Court of Spain—The Spaniards have offered to make him a present of half that sum, to let them off.

The Paris papers deny the late Manifesto to have been an official publication.

The French General Monnet, when he took possession of Flushing, published a decree of the First Consul, declaring that place to be in a state of siege.

A fleet of 14 sail of the line is ordered to assemble in Torbay.

We find the following paragraph under the Portsmouth head of April 16—“His Royal Highness the DUKE of KENT is hourly expected to arrive in the *Amazon*, frigate, from Lisbon.—Orders have arrived here to receive “His Royal Highness with every respect due to his character.”

The result, and even the present state of the “important discussions,” between Great-Britain and France, seem to be involved in the most impenetrable secrecy—and every thing appears to remain in a most embarrassing state of suspense.—The 3 per cent. consols, were, on the 18th of April, at 63½—a small advance.

Ludlow, Fraser and Robinson,
Have Received by the ROSINA, from Greenock; and
ADRIATIC, from London,
A VERY GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF
GROCERIES and DRY GOODS,
SUITABLE FOR THE SEASON,
WHICH will be opened for Sale at their STORES
in this CITY and at FREDERICTON, on the
most reasonable terms.
All kinds of FURS and SKINS taken in payment
and the highest prices allowed.
SAINT JOHN, 25th MAY, 1803.

ARTILLERY BILLS.
BILLS of EXCHANGE to the amount of ONE
HUNDRED POUNDS, STERLING, on the Pay-
Master of the Royal Artillery, London, to be disposed of.
Apply at the OFFICE of ORDNANCE.
SAINT JOHN, 28th MAY, 1803.

THE SUBSCRIBER
INTENDS shortly to leave the Province for some
Months, requests those who are indebted to him to settle
their small Accounts, to enable him to pay them that he is
indebted to.
JOHN WOLHAUPTER.
SAINT JOHN, 28th MAY, 1803.

NOTICE.
ALL Persons indebted to the Estate
of THOMAS LAWTON, Esq. deceased, are requested
to make payment within Six Months from the date hereof,
at the expiration of which time, all unsettled demands will
be put in suit.—And all persons having any demands
against said Estate, are desired to render the same without
delay. FRANCES LAWTON, Executrix,
ISAAC LAWTON,
WILLIAM WHITLOCK, } Executors
ANDREW CROOKSHANK.
SAINT JOHN, 28th MAY, 1803.